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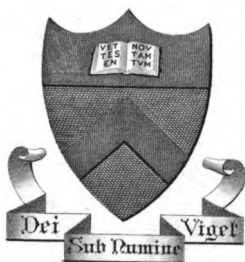
STORY OF THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PILGRIMAGE

1920



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**HIS HOLINESS POPE BENEDICT XV
GIVING THE PAPAL BLESSING**



JAMES A. FLAHERTY
SUPREME KNIGHT OF THE ORDER

Foreward

It is a distinct pleasure for me to launch this interesting book by my friend and Brother Knight, P. H. Kelly, of Philadelphia, who was one of my genial companions on the pilgrimage through France, Italy and Switzerland, that did so much to add to the already great prestige of the Knights of Columbus.

It can be truly said that we Knights traveled far, saw much, conquered the hearts of France and the great heart of the Holy Father of Christendom.

This historical pilgrimage will live long in the memory of the men who were privileged to be a part of it. They were loyal supporters of our great Republic, they represented American Catholicity, and represented it well, and, as I believe, in the course of their extensive travels they impressed favorably those who saw them with the virility and earnest faith of patriotic Catholic American manhood. They live up to the ideals and teachings of the Order in which men may well be proud to claim membership.

The complete record and description of our wonderful experience written by one of the observing pilgrims will recall pleasant memories and recollections to all the brothers, who by their exemplary conduct on all occasions proved their love of faith and country.

James A. Flaherty
Supreme Knight

Preface

Description of the Knights of Columbus Pilgrimage through the battle-scarred and blood-stained fields of France, the Vatican Gardens in ancient Rome, the consecrated grounds of Lourdes, the holy temples, cathedrals, ancient tombs, catacombs and historical points of interest to be seen in the Old World.

The reasons which prompted the writing of this book by the author was a desire to place in the hands of every pilgrim (and every member of the Order if possible) a complete and perfect record of details, incidents and experiences met with during the Pilgrimage through France, Italy and Switzerland.

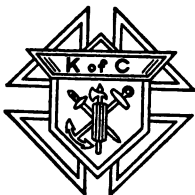
This book of memories will recall the hundreds of notable experiences which marked the "Pilgrim's Progress," and will also be a source of pleasure and gratification not only to the individual members who participated, but to the Order as a whole, to know that the unsurpassed record of achievements made by our overseas representatives has been materially added to by our visit and the graceful tribute we paid to France, as Americans, in the presentation of the Lafayette Statue at Metz.

The receptions shown us by the French people, and the convincing evidence of sincere friendship took the form of a series of enthusiastic ovations. This patriotic demonstration of gratitude followed by the impressive ceremonies in the Vatican Gardens, St. Peter's Cathedral and the Shrine of Lourdes, left recollections that will never be forgotten. The courtesies shown us by his Holiness gave a spiritual atmosphere to our visit, thus increasing the faith of every man having a part in this International and now historical pilgrimage.

THE EDITOR.

Story of the Knights of Columbus Pilgrimage

P. H. KELLY, Author



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1920

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Dedicated

**—TO THE ETERNAL FRIEND-
SHIP OF FRANCE AND
AMERICA.**

**—TO THE EVERLASTING
FEALTY OF THE KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS AND THE
CATHOLICS OF AMERICA
TO THE HOLY SEE.**

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**Story of the
Knights of Columbus
Pilgrimage
1920**

A detailed account is here related of the many interesting and educational experiences of the 239 Pilgrims, members of the Knights of Columbus, who have recently returned from a tour of France, Italy and Switzerland.

Accompanied by hundreds of automobiles containing friends and relatives, we were escorted to the North River by the celebrated New York Police Band. Here we boarded the good ship Leopoldina, formerly a German vessel, which left New York dock, Pier 57, at 5 P. M. August 5, 1920. Our ship was followed out to sea by two large pleasure boats, chartered by the Knights of Columbus of Newark and Jersey City. One of them, the "Highlander," carried at least 1500 men and women, with bands playing national airs and all on board

**The Ocean
Voyage**

singing the "Star Spangled Banner and the "Marseillaise."

We were very much pleased to learn that fifteen priests were members of our party. Sunday morning three Masses were celebrated. A very able sermon was delivered by Vicar General Kerwin, of Galveston, Texas. Later in the day, by request of the French officers and crew, the jeweled Baton which we were to present to Marshal Foch was placed on exhibition, passed and saluted by the ship's officers and photographs taken.

We also carried the de luxe edition of "The Knights of Columbus in Peace and War," to be presented to the Holy Father, Pope Benedict, and the illuminated certificates of honorary membership in the Order to be presented to his Eminence Cardinal Mercier and King Albert of Belgium. They were encased in massive gold frames.

**Wireless
Messages**

Tuesday evening a lengthy wireless message was received from Supreme Advocate Pelletier, of Boston, Mass., answering a question and defining the law of our Order dealing with

the liquor problem when on the high seas. This very important subject occupied the balance of the evening and seriously interfered with the plans of the entertainment committee having in charge the evening concert, and tested the parliamentary knowledge of the Master of Ceremonies, John Reddin, Supreme Director.

During the afternoon we witnessed games, wrestling, boxing, etc., by the ship's crew.

Friday afternoon a wireless received from the French Government notified us that we would be met by Government officials, M. Fernand Pollain, Ambassador from the Premier of France, and other men of prominence. Friday night found every man on board parading and singing popular airs of America and France with Vicar General Kerwin, of Galveston, Texas, leading and directing the "midnight choir."

The coast of England was sighted on Saturday morning. We were then passing over points where at least forty English and French vessels had been sunk by German submarines. Saturday night the entire party were the guests

of the Pennsylvania delegation at an entertainment which lasted well into the morning.

**Arrival
at Havre** Sunday morning, August 15th (Feast of the Assumption), we entered the channel at Havre,—the whistles of all other ships sounding a welcome. Knights singing "Holy God" and the national airs, the bands playing, made our landing most inspiring. We were all pleased to recognize Mr. Edward L. Hearn, Overseas Commissioner for the Knights of Columbus, whose tireless efforts were largely responsible for the unparalleled success of the Pilgrimage. Too much praise cannot be given him and his able assistant, Mr. Fred. Milan, Deputy Commissioner; his accomplished secretary, Miss Walsh, and others connected with his office. The ship docked at 11 A. M. We were received by a committee, and hurried by automobile to board a special train for Paris. The legal formality of examining trunks and baggage was dispensed with out of deference to the Knights of Columbus.

On our way to Paris we passed through the fertile fields of Normandy, 75 per cent. of them

under cultivation. We also had a view of Rouen, famous for its beautiful Cathedral, and which figured in French history as the place where Joan of Arc was tried and burned at the stake in the year 1431. Upon arrival at Paris great crowds greeted us, bands played and people cheered. We were received by Marcel Knecht, official interpreter, by courtesy of the Premier, and other officials, and then escorted to our hotels.

Immediately, a reception was arranged for
6.15 Sunday evening to meet the Archbishop **First Reception**
Cardinal Amette (who was called to his eternal reward a few weeks later). The Cardinal expressed pleasure that he should be so signally honored by having us call upon him as the first official act of our Pilgrimage. Brief addresses were made, and the Cardinal was elected an Honorary Member of the Fourth Degree.

Monday morning, August 16th, (a national holiday), we visited the Knights of Columbus Headquarters, a splendid building, elegantly furnished and a fitting place for the noble humanitarian work carried on by our great Order.

Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty, in company with Commissioner Edward L. Hearn, made formal calls on the Government Ministers and the American Ambassador.

Message from America During the day a telegraph message was received from General Allen, commanding the United States forces at Coblenz, and confirmed later by special messenger, in the person of Captain Wogen, inquiring as to our wishes from the United States Army at the unveiling of the Lafayette Statue at Metz. This action was prompted by a cablegram received from Secretary of War Baker, at Washington, directing that every assistance and courtesy possible be shown the members of our Pilgrimage.

A great number of the Brothers visited the aeroplane fields and witnessed machines flying on schedule time between Paris and London every two hours. Fifteen passengers were carried in each air ship and the voyage of 287 miles was made in two hours and thirty-five minutes. In the evening a reception and dance held at the Knights of Columbus Club, in the heart of Paris, was attended by a great number of young

ladies of the American Red Cross. The evening proved most enjoyable.

Tuesday morning we left the hotel at 7.00 A. M. We went by auto to the train, then to Chateau Thierry, a distance of forty-five miles, where we were met by the official committee. After speeches, the presentation of flowers, the playing of bands, and thousands cheering, we moved on to Vaux. Here hundreds of houses were destroyed by American shell fire. From Vaux we went to Bouresches, where churches and houses are a pile of debris. Then, by automobile we moved to that historical place where the American Army fired the first shot from the top of Belleau Woods and in thirteen minutes destroyed the town of Vaux. This town had been taken by the Germans, was occupied by them, and consequently had to be destroyed by the Americans, in order that they might drive out the Germans.

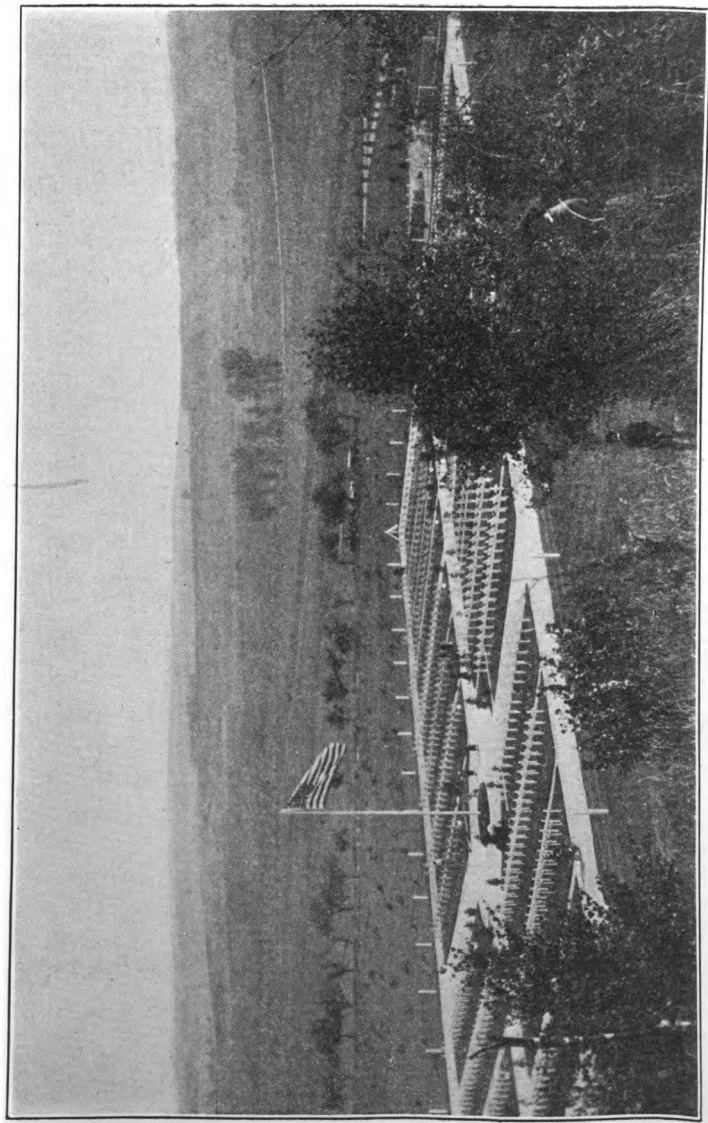
**First View
of Belleau
Woods**

It was at Belleau Woods that the American Marines and Second Division stopped the German advance towards Paris and performed deeds of valor, the very daring of which gave

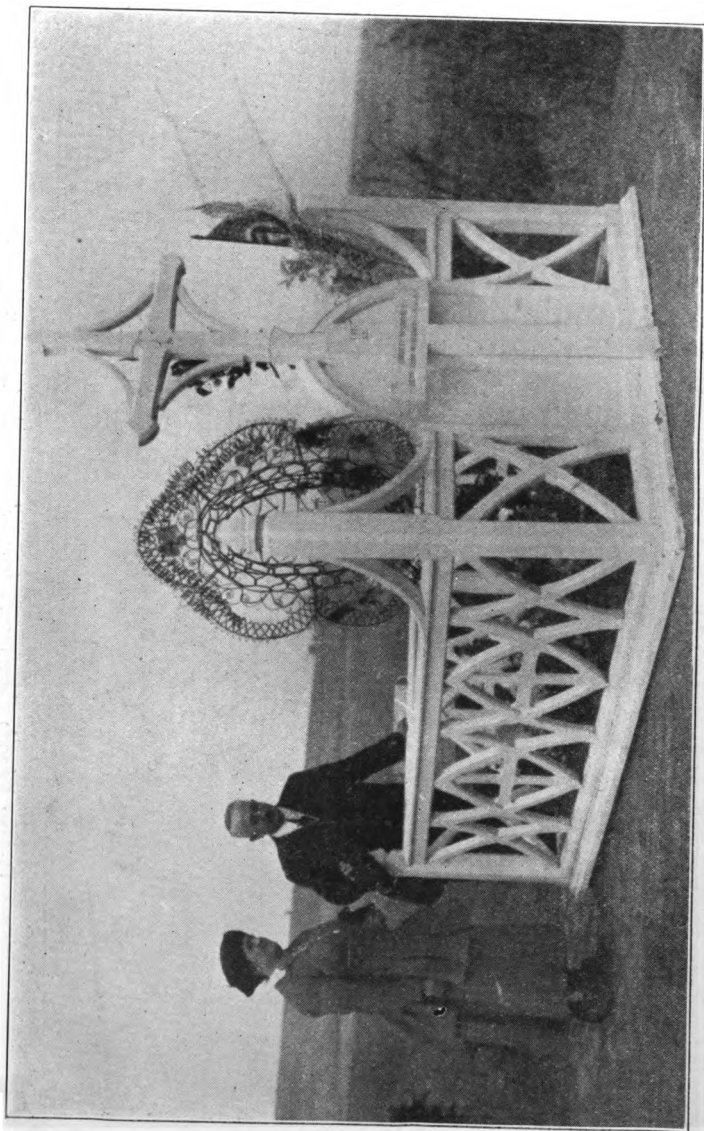
renewed courage to the tired French soldiers, and to quote the words of General Mangin: "Started the allied armies on the way to victory." The name of Belleau Woods will live forever in World War History. Belleau Woods is known to the Marines as the "Woods of Death." More than 70 per cent. of those engaged in this drive were killed by machine guns or mustard gas. To the Second Division and Marines is given the honor and glory of our first great victory.

A well-kept cemetery tells the tragic story of America's part in this battle. It is located upon the side of a hill and contains the bodies of 2750 American boys. The cemetery is well cared for by the French Government, and if one can for a moment forget the tragedy, it is beautiful to see.

We were received at the cemetery by Marcel Knecht and General Mangin, who commanded the greater part of the French and American soldiers participating in the battles of Belleau Woods, Chateau Thierry and the surrounding villages. Patriotic addresses were made in



Belleau Woods Cemetery, a few miles outside Chateau Thierry.

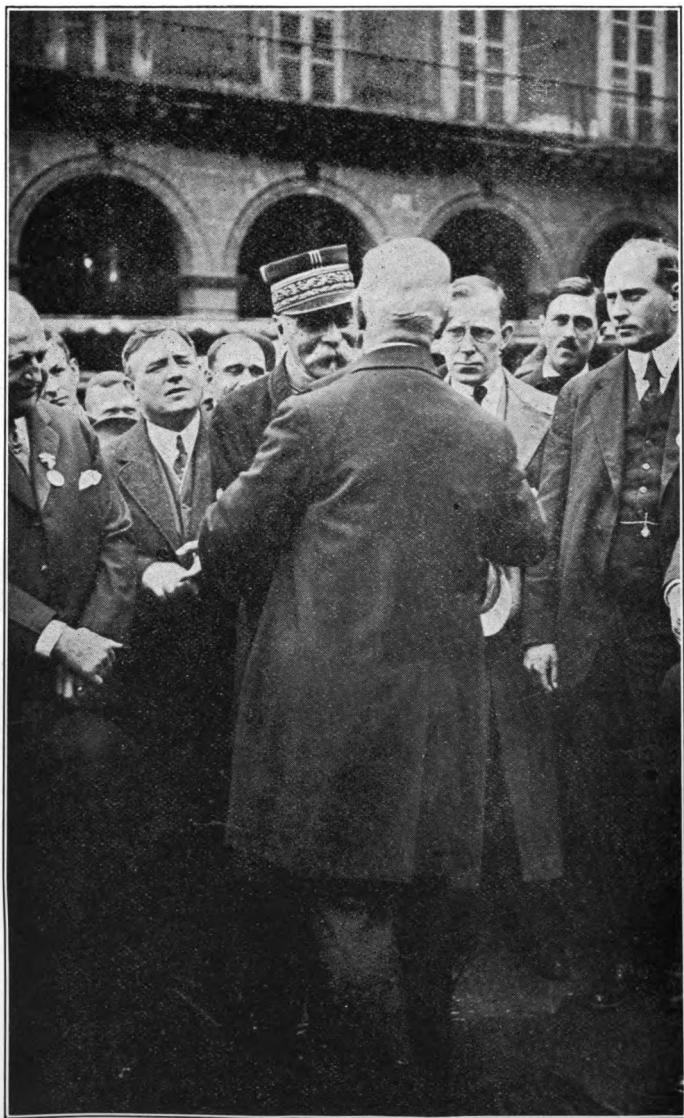


Grave of Quentin Roosevelt in France.



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**West Portal of Rheims Cathedral and Statue
of Joan of Arc.**



**General Pau, only surviving relative of Joan of Arc greeting
Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty**

French by the General, who praised the courage, manhood and efficiency of the American soldiers. A beautiful floral piece was placed on the centre mound of the cemetery by Madame Jusserand, wife of the French Ambassador to the United States. The floral piece had been presented to her by the children of Chateau Thierry, through Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty. The flowers were picked from the battlefields where American boys proved themselves worthy sons of their brave sires of Revolutionary days.

We then returned to the City Hall at Chateau Thierry, known as Hotel de Ville. A legal holiday had been declared and a wonderful reception arranged for us by the Mayor and city officials. Speeches of welcome were made, to which Supreme Knight Flaherty responded in a most able and eloquent manner. We were decorated and presented with bronze medals containing the profile of Washington, Foch and Lafayette. Little girls dressed in their quaint costumes pinned the medals upon us.

On the 15th day of July, 1918, the Germans

started a great drive for Paris, by way of Chateau Thierry, then east to Rheims. It was here the American Army inscribed its name in the golden book of military achievement. They not only withstood the severest attack ever concentrated by a military machine, but drove the Germans back and out of Chateau Thierry—thus starting the retreat, which was ended only on Armistice Day, November 11, 1918. In this famous second battle of the Marne, the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 26th, 28th, 32d and 42d divisions of Pennsylvania participated.

The Mayor of Chateau Thierry presented to Supreme Knight Flaherty a stone from the ruined bridge across the River Marne, with the request that it be given to the American Legion as a memento of the great achievements of the American soldiers. We were the guests of the City at a luncheon in the largest hotel, moving pictures were taken, and we left the city amid the cheers of the people, showing us how much they appreciated our visit.

Soissons

We moved on thirty miles by automobile to Soissons and viewed the ruins. It was here

that the First and Second Divisions of the American Army proved themselves superior to the trained soldiers of the German army, and by the power of their attack destroyed the morale of the Germans, thus speeding the day to victory. This battle is known as the Aisne-Marne Battle. We later visited the Cathedral, which is one of the historic buildings of France, built in the Twelfth Century in honor of St. Protase and St. Gervase.

The masonry work, the carving and skill of the ancient sculptors are both beautiful and artistic, and no mechanics living today could duplicate the work destroyed. The bells, which were broken by German shells, were set in the tower steeple in 1810. The wanton destruction of this perfect piece of architecture is a crime unpardonable, and served no purpose whatever except to show the ruthlessness and accuracy of German gunnery. The Germans destroyed this city by long-range guns, from a distance of several miles. It was under their control during June and July of 1918. A reception

was held by the Bishop and his autograph given to many of the members of our party.

Visit to Fismes We then proceeded to Fismes, formerly a village of 600 houses. The complete destruction of every house can scarcely be described. It was done by American guns and soldiers in one day, in order to drive out a section of the German army which had taken possession of it several months before. Not a house remains standing today.

This city, which was the main railroad centre of this part of France, had been controlled by the Germans for several months. In the great American offensive of July 18, the Germans made this town and the River Vesle, on which it is situated, their line of resistance. On the 5th day of August, the 32d Division, from Wisconsin, forced an entrance to the town, and on that same day the famous 28th (Iron Division) of Pennsylvania (National Guards) took up the task, jointly with the heroic 77th (Metropolitan Division), drove out the Germans and captured the town. This was the only town on the north of the River

Vesle taken by the Allied troops up to that time. Great quantities of ammunition and supplies were captured by our armies, during the desperate fighting which lasted thirty-two days.

The spiritual encouragement of the chaplain Rev. Father Joseph L. Wolfe during the terrific bombardment gave renewed courage to the tired soldiers and assisted materially in the glorious victory.

During the day we passed through at least twenty small settlements or towns, many of them entirely destroyed, others partially ruined, while still others were deserted, showing no signs of life. It is a common occurrence to see a father slowly rebuilding his former home, aided by his small children, who carry the stones and mix the mortar. Even the women folk are oftentimes seen helping to rebuild the home.

Hundreds of thousands of trees have been destroyed, some by gases and chemicals and many by the axe in the hands of German soldiers. This was unnecessary and compares in viciousness with the destruction of the coal and iron mines of France. A number of thirty thou-

**Destruction
of Trees,
Mines, Etc.**

sand horse-power pumps will be engaged continually for the next three years pumping water from the mines, where in order that the mines might be permanently destroyed, the beds of rivers were changed. Germany is now being forced to supply coal and iron in sufficient quantities to meet the requirements of the French people. This is as it should be.

During all our travels, we experienced a feeling of sorrow in beholding the great number of widows, dressed in black, and the sad-faced orphans, being cared for by the good Sisters of Charity. This feature brought a touch of melancholy to the trip almost hourly. It is a common scene, as we stop at some historic point, to see the tears streaming from the eyes of the women, who have gathered to welcome us. Our presence being a reminder of the sufferings and loss they endured.

German prisoners can be seen at work making repairs to roads and bridges which were made unapproachable by their advancing or retreating army. In the destruction of this town of Fismes, 1800 American boys lost their

lives. They were members of the 28th Division of Penna., 32nd Division of Wisconsin, and the 77th Division of New York. A beautiful cemetery on the outskirts of the town marks their last resting place, and 1800 white crosses graphically tells the story of their sacrifice. A detour was made to the grave of Quentin Roosevelt. Flowers were placed upon the mound by Madame Jusserand. The grave is well cared for and the French children in the surrounding villages place flowers upon it daily.

Wednesday morning, August 18th, we left Paris for Rheims, a distance of ninety miles, reaching there at 9.30, amidst bands playing, flags flying, and children cheering and singing. At the railroad station we were welcomed by General Maistre and General Battaille, who remained with us during the entire day. A holiday was declared and ten thousand people escorted us through the town, which formerly contained fourteen thousand dwelling houses.

**Visit to
Rheims**

This town was under German shell fire continuously for four years, and no tongue, pen or picture can tell the story adequately. Of the

14,000 homes but 1380 can be repaired, and but twenty houses escaped the shell fire. One hundred and twenty thousand people lived comfortably and peaceably in the city of Rheims before the war. The property damage in this alone was 4,000,000,000 francs. It is estimated that 80,000 people have returned to the city. Herculean work is being done towards the erection of new houses and the re-establishment of former business industries.

The hundreds of women and girls dressed in black indicates the loss of man power and the irreparable injury done to France and civilization—yet in this valley of sorrow can be found a wonderful determination to rebuild the homes which existed previous to the German occupation. They also found voice and courage to cry out “Vive l’ Amerique.”

**The
Cathedral
at Rheims**

We visited the Cathedral at Rheims, (one of the most magnificent and interesting buildings ever erected) where we were received by Cardinal Lucon, who is 80 years of age; he lived during the war, in a vault in the basement of the Cathedral, while the splendid edifice was

used as a target for German gunners. This Cathedral is 489 feet in length, with towers 267 feet above the street level, in front of which stands the beautiful statue of Joan of Arc, recently canonized as a Saint by the Church. The building of this holy edifice in honor of St. Remigius was begun in 1211 and finished in 1428. It was at Rheims that all Kings of France, with the exception of Louis VI and Henry IV, were consecrated. It was here the Maid of Orleans saw her dreams of the returned greatness of France come true, as she stood erect, holding a white banner by the side of Charles of Valois, while he took the oath to secure the Church, to preserve the people from unjust taxation and to rule France with justice and mercy.

The Germans entered Rheims September 4, 1914, just forty-four years to the day since they had taken possession of it in 1870. Their stay was short, however, as they were driven out in nine days. In revenge they looted, burned and destroyed the entire city. Why it was necessary to make targets of beautiful monu-

ments erected to the honor and glory of God is beyond human comprehension. Such crimes against the law of God and man cry to Heaven for Vengeance!

As we were leaving the Cathedral a young man was approached by an Indian Missionary Priest, now stationed in New York City. The Father requested the young man to remove his cap as the Cardinal was approaching. The youth loudly and insolently declared that he would do nothing of the kind, as he was a free man in a free country. He had scarcely uttered the words, when he fell backwards, striking his head upon the stone steps. The doctors were rushed to his side and worked over him for some time. They declared he had been stricken with an epileptic fit.

**Reception by
Princess de
Polignac**

We were then escorted to the recently rebuilt cheateau of the Princess Henry de Polignac, of the famous Pommery family, owners and manufacturers of world-renowned wines and champagne of that name. A great reception and luncheon followed.

Many of the distinguished men of France were at the table,—including Cardinal Lucon, M. Leon Bourgeois, President of the French Senate and the League of Nations; Generals Maistre, Bataille and Ducon, M. Briscoe, Prefect of Justice; Bishop Baudrillart, member of the Academy and President of the University of Paris, and L. Hopitau, aide to Marshal Foch, whom he represented. Premier Millerand, now President of France, was Master of Ceremonies. He made a stirring speech, at the conclusion of which he added further honors to those already received by Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty by making him a commander of the Legion of Honor. Eloquent acknowledgment was made by Mr. Flaherty. After the reception the hostess, Princess de Polignac, delivered an address which touched the heart and brought tears from the eyes of every person within the beautiful reception-room.

A few paragraphs taken from her very eloquent address will give some idea of its character and show plainly the sentiment that prompted her to speak so earnestly and to

leave such a lasting impression in the hearts and minds of all present.

Address of
Princess
de Polignac

After speaking of the tragedy of the late World War and the relations which should exist between France and America, she appealed to the women of America, through their fathers, sons and brothers who comprised her audience, that they permit the cradles of their loved ones, now in French soil, to remain undisturbed, those who lie in Belleau Woods, Romaygne-Argonne, Flanders Fields and other sacred spots cherished by the womanhood of France.

“If you will do this, we promise to surround them with that maternal care which they would receive had the sacrifice been made in their own land. Our prayers and supplications for their eternal reward will be constant and sincere. We will keep the mounds which mark their resting-place continually moist with the tears of the widows and orphans in whose cause they laid down their lives.

“In proof of our sincerity we ask that you visit the burial places where one or more of your boys have been tenderly laid,—in order

that you may bear testimony and carry the message to the great and good mothers of your wonderful country. Tell them with what tender care we will keep the graves of their dead ever beautiful to look upon, and my dear friends, Brothers and Sisters in the great cause of liberty, need I remind you that—your blood has mingled with our blood; your tears have flowed with our tears; our joy on Armistice Day was your joy, and that of every civilized nation of the world. The physical remains of your boys are now part of our soil, and their continued presence with us is the tie that binds, and permanently establishes between us an unbreakable chain of unity and friendship. For this, and kindred other reasons my message from the noble women of France should be carried to your people across the seas, and if your duty in this is as well done as the part you played in the great world tragedy, our appeal and prayers will be answered, and our obligations to your great Republic continue to the end of time.”

At the conclusion of her touching address the Princess was deeply affected, and after again welcoming the Knights of Columbus to her home and assuring us of the pleasure it gave her to have the Pilgrims as her first guests in her rebuilt chateau, she called upon all present to raise their glasses in respect and honor to "Amerique."

A short address, expressing our appreciation, by Supreme Knight Flaherty closed the ceremonies, and we proceeded at once to the City Hall, where we were met by the Mayor of Rheims and General Maistre. Official welcome was extended to our party and most ably acknowledged by Past State Deputy Charles M. Neizer, of Indiana.

**Visit to
Pommery
Wine Caves**

After leaving City Hall we journeyed through the Pommery wine cellars and caves, where twelve million bottles of champagne are stored while undergoing various degrees of fermentation. Eleven miles of underground passages, streets and vaults are covered 100 feet below the surface level. Here five thousand children attended school with safety while the

City of Rheims was daily shelled by German guns and bombed from Airplanes. The Princess de Polignac and her brother, the Count, escorted us through the wine caves.

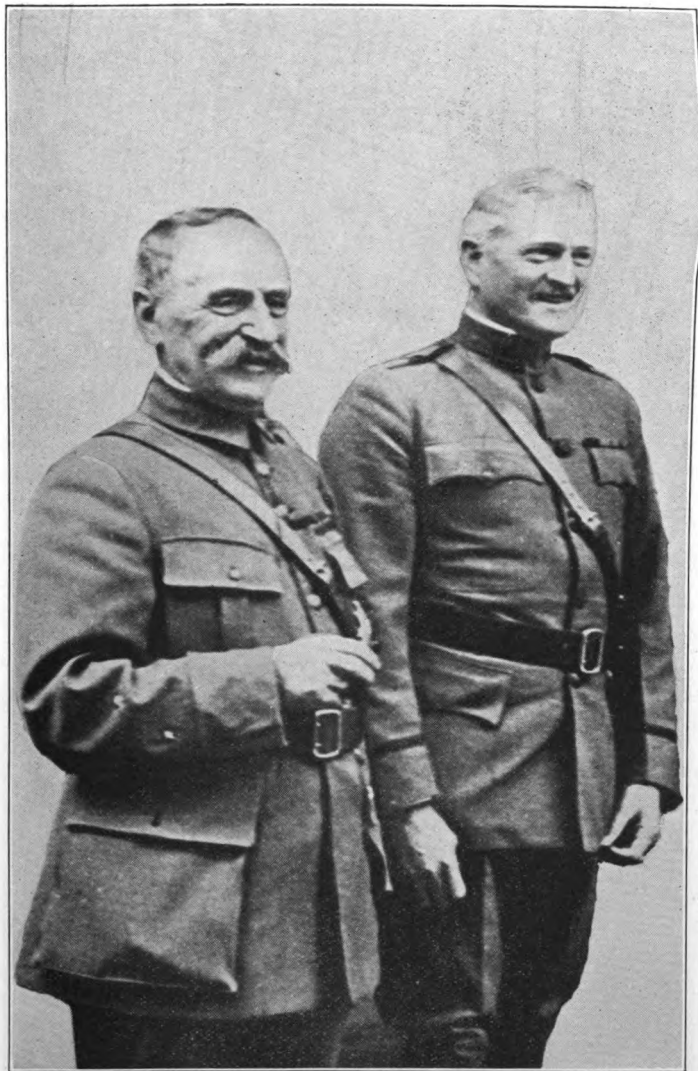
We then moved on to Fort de la Pompelle, **Fort de la Pompelle** which played a very important part in the great World War. Many of our boys were lost in the several battles protecting this military position. It was here, too, that our soldiers covered themselves with additional glory under General Liggett. It was at this point that the retreating French soldiers met our troops coming up. The French soldiers cried out: "Run! The Germans are coming!" the Americans answered: "Run? Like Hell, run!!! We came four thousand miles to meet them. Why should we run?" The French took heart at this display of courage—a great victory was the result.

A short distance from this fort two hundred soldiers, in position to make a charge, were completely buried by an underground mine explosion. Part of their guns are showing above the surface. Preparations are now going on for the building of mausoleums, where proper burial ceremonies will take place.

We visited, during the day, the towns of Mont Cornillet, Prosnes, Thiuzy, Verzenal, Mailly and Cormontreuil. Monsignor Braudrillart, one of the Forty Immortals of France, also Bishop Lillis, of Kansas City, two generals and several French statesmen were with us during the tour.

**Argonne
Battle-fields**

The battle-fields between the Blanc Mountains and the Argonne fields show the result of heavy shell-fire, underground trenches, barbed wire barriers and all other modern methods of protection and attack. General Matrie, speaker on the field, as the official representative of the French Government, explained in detail the various battles, with complimentary references to the valor and efficiency of American soldiers. He recited dramatically the terrible days of battle from July 15th to July 18th, 1918, the result of which sealed the fate of the Germans. He attributed the great successes to the extraordinary courage of the men and to the military genius of Marshal Foch. At the conclusion of this ceremony we returned to the hotel at Rheims for dinner, arriving in Paris at 10.45 P. M.



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MARSHAL FOCH
FRANCE

GENERAL PERSHING
AMERICA

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**Statue of Lafayette at Metz, presented to France by the
Knights of Columbus, August 21st, 1920**

Thursday, August 19th, we visited the Invalides Hotel,—a noted historical building identified with all the battles, events and famous personages connected with the military history of France, and dating back to the early centuries. One of these buildings contains the tomb of Napoleon, a beautiful sarcophagus of red granite, surrounded by priceless treasures in mosaics and tapestries. Interesting relics were shown to us, including the gold crown worn by Napoleon and the vestments worn by the priests at the funeral Mass of the famous Emperor. We were accorded special privileges by the French Government and escorted about the grounds by the "First" Military Band of France. A very able address was delivered by Deputy Supreme Knight Martin H. Carmody, eulogizing Napoleon and other French heroes and expressing our appreciation for the reception shown us by the French Government.

**Invalides
Hotel, Paris**

We visited the monuments of George Washington and of Pasteur, the great scientist. Later we gathered at the statue of Joan of Arc, where a reception was held by General Pau,

**Visiting
Monuments**

the only surviving relative of the Maid of Orleans. Patriotic addresses were made at these monuments by Supreme Directors E. W. Buckley, of St. Paul, and J. J. Leddy, of Saskatchewan, Canada. Large floral wreaths were placed by the Knights of Columbus on the tombs of Napoleon, Washington, Pasteur and Joan of Arc. A reception followed in the evening, tendered by Stephen Lausanne, editor of "La Matin," the leading Paris daily.

Arrival at Metz Friday, August 20th, the Pilgrimage left Paris at 7.40 A. M. for Metz, Alsace Lorraine, our original destination, to fulfill the purpose of our visit to France. We arrived at 2.30 P. M. A huge demonstration was given us and a public reception by city officials followed. Speeches of welcome were delivered by M. Manceron, Prefect of Metz, and General Berthelot, Governor General of Alsace Lorraine. Our Supreme Knight made a brief response, after which the bands played the "Star Spangled Banner" and the thousands of people in and around the station joined in singing the French national air, the "Marseillaise."

Automobiles carried us to **Combian Cemetery**, where lie the remains of many French heroes of the War of 1870-71. Services were held over their graves, as well as over the graves of American soldiers who gave up their lives in the late World War. An eloquent and touching address was made by Monsignor Baudrillart, who had accompanied us from Paris, to which Vicar General Kerwin, of Galveston, Texas, Chaplain of the Order, replied in French. Supreme Knight Flaherty placed flowers on the graves of twenty American boys who rest beneath the crosses in this distant burial place.

This was followed by an automobile ride to Fort San Quentin, overlooking the valley and the Moselle River. This fort is 955 feet above the City of Metz. Patriotic addresses were made by military and municipal representatives, and several of our party were permitted to fire the large guns,—the empty shells being given to them as souvenirs of their visit. All European forts, we learned, are to be abandoned under advice of military experts, because of the ease with which they can be destroyed by bombs dropped from airplanes.

**Arrival of
Marshal
Foch** Returning to the city square, we assembled to meet Marshal Foch. Appropriate programs and medals were presented to each member of our party. Here we were serenaded by a band of two hundred pieces. There were eight bands in the line of march and three hundred war bugles all played at one time. Thousands of soldiers lined the streets to make our passage possible and to protect us from the great throngs of people.

Later in the evening we were the guests of the city at a special entertainment held in the Metz Municipal Theatre in honor of our Pilgrimage and of the presence of United States Ambassador Wallace, who accompanied us. This very enjoyable affair was under the direction of the Premier, the Minister of Justice and Marshal Foch. All Knights were in evening dress, and at the conclusion of the entertainment we were escorted through the beautiful botanical gardens by the 26th Regiment Band of French Chasseurs, which headed the procession playing the "Star Spangled Banner." These gardens compare favorably in size and

grandeur with the Tuileries gardens at Paris.

Saturday, August 21st, a High Mass of Requiem was celebrated in the Metz Cathedral. In attendance were Marshal Foch and several generals and a number of Church dignitaries. Among the latter was Monsignor Cabanel, Chaplain of the "Blue Devils," a famous regiment of France whose deeds of daring and service in the cause of their country form one of the brightest pages in World War History. This regiment acted as escort to our party during our stay at Metz. The high military Mass was offered up in memory of those heroes who died in the great war. A memorial casket, draped in French and American flags, lay in state in front of the chancel rail. The voices of the trained choir, accompanied by the sweet tones of the great cathedral organ, added much to the impressiveness of the ceremonies and gave to those present a spiritual feeling seldom experienced.

**Memorial
Services
in Metz
Cathedral**

In our honor, the chimes in the Cathedral were rung for the first time in fifty years. They were last heard when Alsace Lorraine was taken

by the Germans in 1870, hence at the sound of the bells many of the citizens dropped to their knees in praise and thanksgiving to God for their release from German bondage.

**Presentation
of Statue**

After services, we proceeded by automobile to the site of the new Lafayette Statue which we were presenting to France as a testimonial of appreciation for the inestimable services rendered to Washington and our colonies by Lafayette in our war for Liberty and Independence.

Metz was the city where Marshal Foch spent his school days and from which he was exiled by the German victory of 1871, and also the city where Lafayette started for America in 1776.

At least 25,000 people surrounded the statue, crowded the grandstands and occupied every available space.

The presentation speech was made by Supreme Director William P. Larkin. During his able and patriotic address he said: "We Knights of Columbus welcome this opportunity to symbolize the age-old bonds that bind American and French fighting men, smashing their way to victory over a common foe. This gift

of the Knights of Columbus typifies America's love for France. It is the enduring pledge that America is still mindful of our ancient friendship, and also that America never forgets." Glowing and eloquent tributes to the chivalry of Lafayette, the courage of French soldiers and the French people as a nation, were paid by the speaker, and enthusiastically received by the multitude present.

The statue was accepted by the Mayor of Metz, who eloquently and sincerely expressed the gratitude of the citizens of Metz, of Alsace-Lorraine and of all the people of France for the nobility of thought and character evidenced in presenting so priceless a gift to the Republic of France. He spoke at length upon the result of our generous action and predicted a permanent unity and friendship between our two great Republics. Many notables of France were on the platform, including the Minister of Justice, M. L'Hopiteau, who acted as Master of Ceremonies; Marshal Foch, Ambassador Wallace, Monsignor Pelt, the Bishop of Metz; Rear Admiral Magruder, representing the United States Navy, and Col. W. H. Johnson,

**Acceptance
of Statue**

representing the United States military forces at Coblenz; the Secretary General of Alsace, General Senoit de Bascuit, senators, deputies and others.

**Presentation
of Baton**

This ceremony was followed by the presentation of the jeweled baton by Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty on behalf of the Knights of Columbus to that genius of military strategy, Marshal Foch. During the presentation he referred to the Marshal as the ideal Christian soldier, "the gray man of Christ," and made complimentary references to him personally and to the achievements of the Allied army under his command.

**Address of
Marshal
Foch**

At the conclusion of the address Marshal Foch embraced Mr. Flaherty and said: "I welcome you, Knights of Columbus, as representatives of America. You have come here to tear down the statue of the Red Prince, just as your soldiers came to tear down the menace of autocracy, which that statue represented. You have come to put in its place the protagonist of freedom, Lafayette; you have given me this magnificent Baton as a tribute of your af-



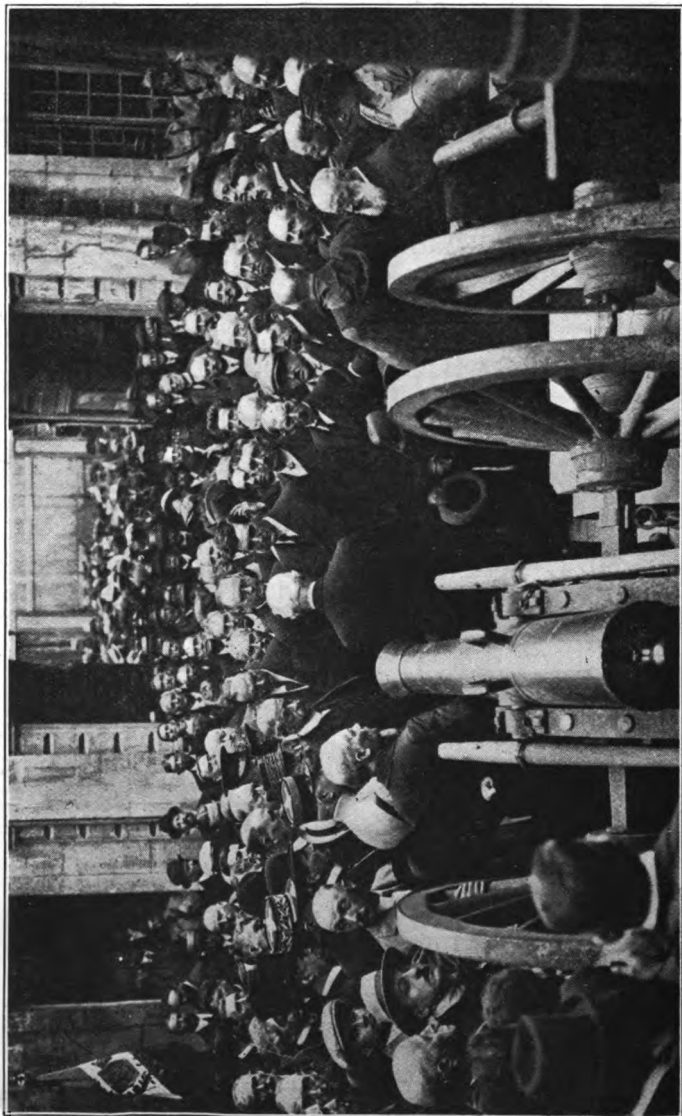
Marshal Foch at the Statue of Lafayette, holding jeweled Baton, presented to him by the Knights of Columbus.



Alsatian girls cheering the Knights of Columbus at Metz.



Combien Cemetery at Metz, Alsace Lorraine.



Reception at Verdun City Hall Courtyard, Hotel de Ville, France.

fection for France and for me. Alsace-Lorraine will be forever French. America and France have long fought for liberty and they will continue to protect liberty throughout the world. Knights of Columbus! you have performed a service for both France and America of benefit to all future generations, and you have stirred the hearts of the French people as they have never been stirred before.

"Your great soldiers under the command of that peerless leader, General Pershing, have placed the government and the people of France under eternal obligations to the great country of America, and we promise never to forget."

The ceremonies at the Statue being concluded, there followed a most elaborate military display, arranged for our entertainment and edification. Twenty thousand soldiers passed the reviewing stand, followed by tanks and cavalry, parading to the military air of numerous bands, while twenty-five aeroplanes maneuvered overhead, dropping flags and flowers, producing one of the most impressive sights ex-

**Military
Pageant**

perienced on our pilgrimage. Thus ended a ceremony that will live forever in the memory of all present.

**St. Clement's
College**

Later we proceeded by automobile to St. Clement's College, where Marshal Foch received his education. A reception was held and decorations given to the officers of our Order. At a later reception held in the City Hall, Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty and Overseas Commissioner Edward L. Hearn were made citizens of Metz.

The Knights gave a banquet in the evening to the city officials. Premier Millerand presided as honorary chairman. Marshal Foch and the Mayor were guests of honor. General Lyautey, of the French Army, and Rear Admiral J. D. Magruder, representing the United States Navy, were among the many notables present.

**Visit to
Verdun**

Sunday, August 22, we left Metz at 7.30 A. M. by automobile, for Verdun. High Mass was celebrated by the Bishop in the Cathedral (built in the Fifth Century), with special reservations made for the Knights of Columbus. After the services Supreme Knight James A.

Flaherty was presented by the Bishop with a piece of walnut wood from the Ostensorium, destroyed by German guns. The building of this famous Cathedral was started in the year 511. The bells in the tower average in weight five tons each.

We then proceeded to City Hall; were welcomed by the Mayor and other officials; then to No Man's Land and the Argonne Sector, where upwards of 700,000 soldiers, many of them American boys, lost their lives. This was the greatest and most disastrous battle of the war. Twenty American divisions were actively engaged in it. The firing began at daybreak, September 26, and continued until November 11, 1918. The desperate attacks of the French and American soldiers soon convinced the German military officials that further resistance was useless; and that the complete collapse of the German military machine was but a question of days. This section had been held by the Germans for nearly four years, and in their retreat, caused by the advance of the Allied armies, many thousands of German prisoners

No Man's
Land

were taken, also supplies and great quantities of equipment and ammunition. It was at this point that Marshal Petain uttered the famous words, "Ils Ne Passeront Pas," (They shall not pass), and they did not pass.

**Marshal
Petain**

We listened to an entertaining description of the several battles by Marshal Petain, who, like all other Marshals and Generals, was loud in his praise of the heroism of American soldiers. Mr. Flaherty laid the corner-stone for a chapel on this field as a memorial to the French and American soldiers who sacrificed their lives that the world might be free.

**Romaygne-
Argonne
Cemetery**

We then proceeded to the Romaygne-Argonne Cemetery, one of the largest and most beautifully kept burial-places in France, containing the bodies of 27,000 American soldiers. As we gazed upon this cemetery our hats were raised in reverence and respect to the memory of our boys beneath the crosses. Eyes filled with tears and lips moved in prayer, our thoughts crossed the Atlantic to the wives and mothers of America who will never forget. Many members of our Pilgrimage located the

graves of their sons or brothers. Photographs of the white crosses marking their graves were taken, prayers were whispered and wreaths of flowers placed with loving hands. If the mothers of America could see the care and attention given to the resting places of their boys, the agitation for removal of the bodies to this country would cease and the appeal of the women of France, voiced by the Princess de Polignac, would be universally accepted.

During our drive (over fifty miles of battlefields) we passed by the concrete observation tower built for and used exclusively by the Crown Prince of Germany, and also the barbed wire prison pens in the immediate neighborhood built by the Germans to hold French prisoners of war.

**Observation
Tower**

We passed through the town of Etain. This village was completely destroyed by large guns taken from American battle ships, placed on railroad cars and borne to the front line. The Germans occupied the homes, but were driven out with heavy losses.

The town of Etain is near the famous Duomont Fort Citadel, built originally in 1882 by

**Under-
ground
Citadel**

the French Armies, permitting 30,000 people to live beneath the ground. The Germans duplicated this achievement by excavating for a larger underground city, equipped with electric lights and every modern convenience. The entrance and exit to this Citadel was located by French airmen and destroyed by French and American shell fire. The number of German soldiers entombed has never been determined.

**Activity of
American
Artillery** The Meuse River runs through Verdun. All bridges were completely destroyed during the battles which were constantly taking place. According to military records, 64,000,000 shots were fired by the American soldiers during their participation in the war and 17,000,000 pounds of war equipment used by them. One million shells were fired by American artillery in one period of four hours, the most intense concentration of artillery fire ever recorded in history. General Milandy was eloquent in his description and praise of American marksmanship.

We stopped at what was known as the Hindenburg Line. This consisted of barbed wire fences and railroad tracks placed in concrete walls, trenches and large concrete piers, five feet above the ground, about thirty feet apart, with heavy chains running through them, thus forming a barrier making impossible the moving of trucks, cannons, tanks or other military equipment. This modern method of stopping the advance of the enemies' forces runs the entire length of the battlefields.

During the day, ruined and deserted villages were observed almost hourly, showing with what determination every battle was fought by the opposing armies. What France has suffered in man power and financial loss has never been told. The rebuilding of homes and the cultivation of her fields for bounteous crops bear testimony to the industry of her people, and speak well for the future of this great sister Republic of America. Too much praise cannot be given the French people for the spirit and determination they are showing to rebuild their homes, re-establish industries and adjust financial problems.

**Visit to
Nancy** Monday, August 23d, on our way to Nancy we stopped at Pont-a-Mousson, where the first American boy in active service was killed. He enlisted in the French Army in August, 1914, and was killed three weeks later. Flowers were placed upon his grave, after which we proceeded to Nancy, the home of Marcel Knecht, French High Commissioner to the United States, and who accompanied us as interpreter during our entire trip through France. We were met at the station by General de Castelnau, city officials, brass bands and thousands of citizens and soldiers, who escorted us to the great Cathedral, built in the Twelfth Century, which compares in size, beauty and architecture with other Cathedrals described. After services and singing by a wonderful choir composed of the citizens of Nancy, we were tendered a reception in the City Hall courtyard, after which we returned to the railroad station.

**Visit to
Strasbourg** We arrived at Strasbourg at 4 P. M., and were met by the Chief Justice, the Mayor and City Officials, thousands of soldiers, and 50,000



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Arch of Triumph, Paris



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Eiffel Tower, Paris

people, who lined the streets. We were taken to the Cathedral, the erection of which was started in 1015, A. D. It is of beautiful design and of Gothic architecture. The north tower of the steeple is 465 feet above the street level. Built in, and a part of the Cathedral, is the most wonderful clock in the world.

This clock was finished in the year 1571, and was the creation of a great genius named Dasypodius. It was repaired in 1747 and again in 1838. As the hands move to different points on the clock the figures of our Lord, the Blessed Virgin and the twelve Apostles appear in turn and move about. Thus the story of the Christian Religion is told by the clock's mechanism, as the minute and hour hands move from one figure to another.

**Strasburg's
Wonderful
Clock**

A legend connected with the invention of this clock reads as follows: "The inventor declared his intention of making another clock for another city more wonderful than the one seen in the Cathedral at Strasburg. He was seized by the people and his eyes were pierced with needles, making it impossible for him to

carry out his plans. Many years afterwards, when he was a very old man, he made a request that he be permitted to go into the clock and place his hands upon the machinery. This was granted, and while the attention of the guard accompanying him was occupied in some other direction he touched some part of the mechanism with the result that the lion (demonstrating the story of Daniel in the Lions' Den) has been silent ever since. No expert clock-maker has ever been able to ascertain just what part of the machinery was tampered with."

**Escort of
Soldiers and
Citizens**

We then marched to the public square, where speeches of welcome were made. The crowd was so great that it was difficult to manage. The Mayor announced that a reception had been arranged for us at the City Hall and that the soldiers would be our escorts. Commands were given the soldiers to surround the Pilgrims, but they were unequal to the task. As a result, 50,000 people, soldiers included, became a surging, good-natured, cheering, singing mob, moving toward the City Hall. This was one of the greatest demonstrations of en-

thusiasm shown the Pilgrims during their entire tour.

At eight in the evening we were guests at a very elaborate banquet. Each Knight escorted a young lady of Alsace, garbed in the picturesque costume of the country, to the banquet table. The novelty of this experience was much enjoyed, as the cavaliers were unable to talk to their partners. Some of the Brothers made gallant and persistent efforts to be understood, but without avail. Patriotic speeches were made by the Bishop of Strasburg, General Lyautey, Overseas Commissioner Edward L. Hearn and others. Thus were further cemented the friendly relations of France and America. The City of Strasburg is 250 miles to the east of Paris. It has a population of 150,000 people, and from the year 1871 until the close of the World War was the German seat of government in Alsace Lorraine.

**Banquet at
Strasburg**

On leaving the banquet table, at 12 o'clock, many of the Knights engaged taxicabs and crossed the Rhine River into Germany, having secured permission from the German guards

**Short Visit
to Germany**

**Arrival at
Lucerne**

to go into the town of Kehl. A few places of amusement were open and a pleasant hour spent before returning to the hotels.

At 9 A. M. Tuesday, August 24th, we set out from Strasburg. A stop was made at Basel, Switzerland, for three hours. Resuming the journey at 3 P. M., we reached Lucerne at 6 o'clock, where a reception followed in the evening.

Lucerne is a great centre for jewelry, laces and novelties of different kinds, hence the greater part of the day, Wednesday, August 25th, was spent in shopping. During the afternoon a great number of the Pilgrims visited the Alps, going up 7000 feet above the city level to view the snow-capped peaks, on the incline railway, which boasts a 45 per cent. grade from top to bottom. No accident of any kind has occurred on this railway in thirty years.

An organ recital was given for the Knights in the Cathedral, followed by a special concert and entertainment at the theatre in the evening. A number of world prominent personages were guests of this beautiful resort,

among others Lloyd George, of England; ex-King Constantine and the Queen of Greece and their daughter. They sent greetings to our officers.

Thursday, August 26th, we left Lucerne for Milan, Italy, at 6.30 A. M. The railroad follows the shore of Lake Lucerne for many miles, but the number of tunnels makes the route undesirable for extensive traveling. Our journey took us through the St. Gothard Tunnel in the Alps, an underground passage $9\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, with air shafts at different points. We reached Milan at 1.30 P. M. **Arrival at Milan**

Automobiles were in waiting and we proceeded at once to the majestic Cathedral of St. Charles Borromeo. Two and one-half hours were spent looking over this magnificent building, which ranks among the finest churches of the world. We were shown through the sanctuary and treasure rooms and also to the vault of St. Charles Borromeo, where his body in a splendid state of preservation was exposed to our view. Many relics and treasures of the ancient Christian Church, dating back to the

early centuries, were shown and explained to us by the Bishop.

**The Last
Supper**

We then proceeded to the building in which the original picture of The Last Supper is preserved. This masterpiece was painted by the famous artist, Leonardo da Vinci, it is now somewhat damaged. The soldiers of Napoleon stabled their horses in the building at one time, and their carelessness caused the injury to the painting.

Garibaldi

During our trip through the city we stopped at the statue of Garibaldi. He was a brave Italian soldier and a wonderful leader of men. His life was strenuous and his career varied. He led Italian armies against the Austrians; spent some years in the United States, and later returned to Europe and gave his services to the French Republic against the Germans in 1870. He was later elected a member of the French Assembly. In 1875 he was elected to a seat in the Italian Parliament. Many other points of interest were visited before leaving.

**Arrival at
Florence**

Our next stop was at Florence, where we arrived at 1.30 A. M. Friday, August 27th. A

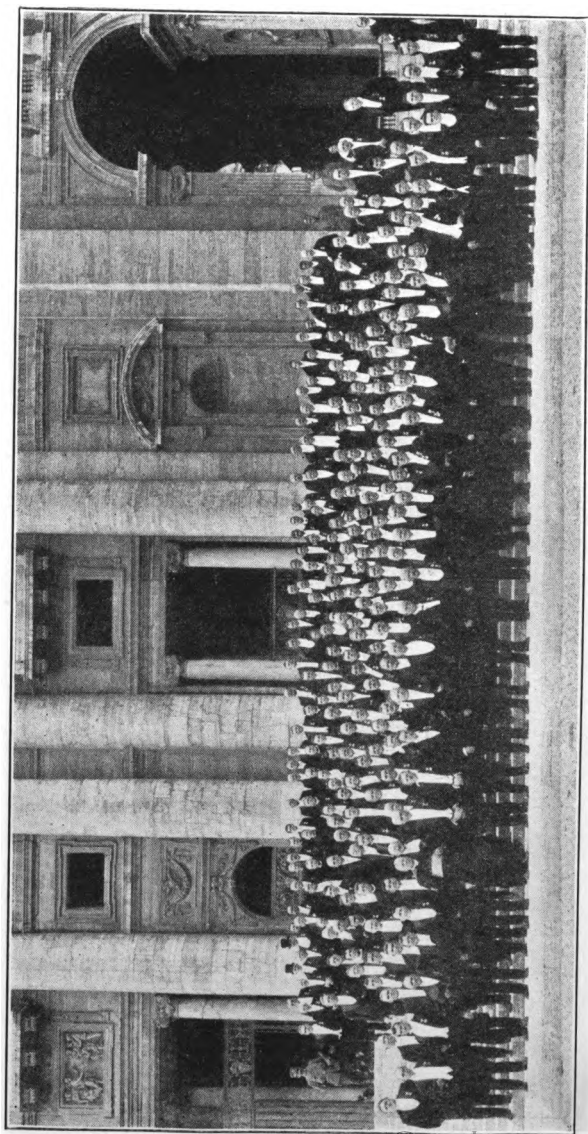
few hours were spent in the morning inspecting the Cathedral and making purchases. We also visited the monument of Dante, one of the world's greatest poets, whose body is buried at Ravenna, whence we passed on to the historical Santa Croce Church, where rest the remains of such famous men as Michael Angelo, Galileo, Amerigo Vespucci and others who made early history in art, science, Church and state. The death of Michael Angelo occurred in the year 1564; Galileo in 1642, and Amerigo Vespucci in 1512. The Royal Pitti art galleries in Florence contain some of the most wonderful paintings in the world, and no trip to this ancient city is complete without a visit to the galleries. We left Florence at 12 o'clock noon.

Saturday, August 28th, we arrived at Rome, Rome
a city of 400 churches and 800,000 people, at 9 o'clock P. M. Almost every religious denomination in the civilized countries of the world have churches or representatives in Rome. Our audience with his Holiness, Pope Benedict XV, was arranged for 11.30 A. M. All Knights appeared in full dress and were escorted to the

private reception room by Archbishop Cerretti. His Holiness appeared much pleased at our coming and expressed his pleasure. After greetings were exchanged, Supreme Knight of the Order James A. Flaherty addressed the Holy Father, expressing our appreciation for the great honors conferred upon us and the extraordinary courtesies shown us. The address, which was both eloquent and touching, gave every assurance of the loyalty and devotion of the Catholics of America to the Holy See; it also touched upon the late world tragedy and the necessity of re-establishing friendly relations among the nations of the world. (The address in full will be found on Pages 90 to 93).

**Greetings,
and Address
of Welcome**

His Holiness listened intently and tears dimmed his eyes, showing his sincere love for America and how deeply he appreciated the loyalty of his children. His address was delivered in a clear voice, an earnest manner and with much emotion. We were assured of the pleasure it gave him to greet us, first as Catholic laymen and secondly as the representatives of a great country, whose institutions guaran-



Knights of Columbus on the steps of St. Peter's Cathedral at Rome.



A FEW OF THE MEDALS PRESENTED TO THE
PILGRIMS DURING THE TOUR

tee freedom of thought and action and give justice to all. He paid tribute to the great humanitarian work of our Order and the patriotism which prompted it. He also expressed a wish that we would establish our Order in Rome, feeling that the work of such an institution could not be productive of anything but good. (The address of His Holiness in full will be found on Pages 94 to 98).

At the conclusion of his able and edifying remarks, he blessed the members individually and presented to each one a special medal. He then gave his Papal blessing to the Order and the work it is doing; blessed all the religious articles presented by the members, and then with proper ceremony decorated Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty as a Knight Commander of St. Gregory. This gracious act on the part of his Holiness in recognizing merit and services rendered to the glory of God and the cause of humanity gave much pleasure and gratification to all of us.

The time spent in the Vatican reception room was about one hour and thirty minutes.

After a final Benediction we were escorted to the courtyard, where a group photograph was taken. Again crossing the River Tiber, we arrived at our hotels at 3 P. M.

The Forum

Later we visited the Forum, one of the historical Roman ruins. Here we stood upon the spot where Caesar was stabbed to death by Brutus in 44 B. C., and where his body was burned. We were photographed on the balcony from which Mark Anthony delivered his historical funeral oration over the remains of Caesar. Other ruins of ancient Rome were visited during the late hours of the afternoon.

**Mass in the
Vatican
Gardens**

Sunday morning, August 29, we attended a special Mass celebrated by Pope Benedict in the Vatican Gardens at 7.30 A. M. All the Knights received Communion from his Holiness. The music of the Mass was rendered by the famous Vatican Choir, under the direction of Monsignor Don Antonio Rella. The Pope then posed for a picture, with the Altar in the background and the Knights surrounding him. This being further proof of the pleasure our presence gave him. His kindly manner towards

our pilgrimage was repeatedly commented upon.

The simplicity of the ceremonies and the total absence of ostentatious display was to many of us a revelation and to a great number a keen disappointment. The courteous and respectful salutations of the Swiss guards and all other attendants made our visit extremely pleasant and we profited much thereby.

The Vatican Gardens cover an area of 10 square miles, completely surrounded by high stone walls. Thousands of people reside within the confines of this Sacred city, whose influence, wisdom and counsel in spiritual and worldly affairs are sought and listened to with respectful attention by all the civilized nations of the world.

The afternoon was spent in sightseeing and visiting some of the famous Churches of Rome and other points of historical interest. The pleasures of this wonderful day were augmented by the announcement, upon the bulletin boards of the hotels, of the Kelly and Costello

American victories in the rowing races at the Olympic Games in Belgium.

Coliseum Monday, August 30, we visited the Roman Ampitheatre, the soil of which is sanctified with the blood of martyrs who were fed to the wild beasts in the early days of the Church. The walls of this monstrous building are nine feet thick, built of brick, and are still standing 155 feet high. We walked through the underground passageways where beasts entered the arena. We then moved on to a road known as the Appian Way. This road is famous in Church history as the path taken by St. Peter when running away from his persecutors who were about to crucify him. He was met by the Lord, who in expressing surprise said, "Peter, whither goest thou?" At this spot the Church of "Quo Vadis" was erected. Peter on returning to Rome was crucified by Nero, head downward, in the year 64.

The Catacombs We then moved on to the Catacombs, where the nobility and first Popes of the Church were buried. Trappist Monks are in charge, and it is a wonderful experience to walk far below the

ground level, through narrow dark hallways and burial vaults, many of them containing the ossified remains of human beings, dead for many centuries. The death and manner of death of St. Cecelia are shown and written on the stone above her vault. The floor level of the Catacombs is fifty feet below the surface of the ground.

We then visited St. Peter's Cathedral, the erection of which began in the year 1506 and consecrated in the year 1626. It is not yet completed and the cost up to the year 1910 amounted to sixty million dollars. It is 613 feet long on the inside and 403 feet wide and 155 feet to the underside of the dome, with the towers running to a height of 448 feet above the street level. All the ancient history of the Church is shown in the beautiful pictures, statues, mosaics, etc., which ornament the interior of this magnificent building. The design, impressiveness and architectural beauty of St. Peter's Cathedral cannot be described. It must be seen.

**St. Peter's
Cathedral**

Eighteen of the world's greatest architects have given the best years of their lives to the

erection and perfection of this wonderful building. Volumes could be written about the magnificent and costly decorations which cover portions of the walls and ceiling. The frescoing and paintings from the hand and brush of ancient masters, coupled with the works of art in bronze and other costly metals, is convincing proof that the world has not moved forward in art or mechanical skill.

Priceless stone and bronze tombs contain the physical remains of the early Popes and also of the Kings and Queens of royal blood, whose conversion to the Church made of them benefactors and gave to them a resting place in this sacred building, where 80,000 people can attend services and raise their hands and voices to God, in whose honor this holy temple was erected.

**Sistine
Chapel in
the Vatican
Gardens** We again visited the Vatican Gardens for the purpose of passing through the many buildings and to view the famous Sistine Chapel. The beautiful paintings which adorn the walls of this Chapel are by Michael Angelo and Raphael, two of the greatest painters the world

has ever known. They tell the story of the early life of Our Lord and that of Moses. They portray the fall of Adam and Eve and their expulsion from Paradise; they depict the Deluge and the sacrifice of Noe. Strongly outlined is the figure of the Lord, judging the just and unjust. Further on we see the Blessed Virgin, the Apostles and the Martyrs; scenes of Hell, of the resurrection after death and many others, illustrating the early Christian Church. Days could be spent in viewing the pictures, mosaics, tapestries and works of art in the Gardens. They cannot be duplicated in any part of the world.

On Monday evening, August 30, the Order arranged a banquet in honor of the official family of the Holy Father. This was in recognition of the kindnesses shown and the courtesies extended to us. It was held in the Grand Hotel, at Rome, and was attended by many of the Church dignitaries, including Monsignor Mahoney, acting supervisor of the American Catholic College, and Monsignor Kelly, of Chicago, Director of the Catholic Extension So-

**Official
Banquet**

ciety; Archbishop Cerretti, Secretary of Ecclesiastical Affairs, was the guest of honor.

The banquet was a great success and enjoyed by all present. Fully 400 were seated at the table. Eloquent addresses, dealing with the patriotic, spiritual and material features of our Pilgrimage were ably delivered by the several speakers.

**St. Paul's
Church**

Tuesday we visited the home of St. Gregory and also visited St. Paul's Church, the architecture of which commands the attention of all tourists. The roof, domes and arches are supported by eighty granite columns, circular in shape, five feet in diameter, running to a height of 75 feet, each column weighing 136 tons. Pictures of all the 260 Popes up to the present time adorn the walls. It was of interest to note that the first twenty-nine Popes of the Christian Church were martyrs. Since 1581 all Popes have been of Italian birth.

**The Walls
of Rome**

Passing outside the ancient wall of Rome through the great gate, which centuries ago barred invading armies which sought to destroy the city, we moved on to a small church,

a distance of three miles. Here St. Paul was beheaded by Nero in the First Century. This Church is kept by the Trappist Monks and three springs mark the place where St. Paul's head rolled from the block. The history of this sacred ground is both interesting and instructive. We called upon the Trappist Fathers and were received cordially. Our next visit was to the King's Palace, after which we returned to our hotels. A reception was tendered in the evening to the Brothers at the home of Robert Underwood Johnson, United States Ambassador to Italy.

Early on Wednesday, September 1st, we set out for Genoa, following the line of the Apennine Mountains on the shores of the Mediterranean, going through at least fifty tunnels. **Departure From the Holy City**

This journey carried us close to the Island of Elba, where the great Napoleon was imprisoned, and we had a glimpse of Pisa, a city of 74,000 inhabitants, made famous by a leaning tower, 150 feet high, built in the Eleventh Century, and overhanging fourteen feet. It has never been authentically established

whether the tower was built in its present condition or is the result of a settlement of the foundations on one side. During the day we passed through many miles of vineyards and fields under cultivation.

**Arrival
at Genoa**

The train reached Genoa at 10.30 P. M. Public officials met us at the station. This city is famous as the birthplace of Columbus, and of Pope Benedict. It has many wonderful buildings. In the city of Genoa there is a dividing line between the patrician and plebian classes. This distinction of class has much to do with the industrial unrest prevailing in the city. The constant agitation was so noticeable during our brief visit that predictions of a coming revolution were frequently made by the more observing members of our Pilgrimage.

Several destructive earthquakes occurred in this vicinity a few days after our departure. Many buildings were ruined and the loss of life was enormous. This calamity was followed by a general strike of all railroad employees, which tied up transportation and seriously embarrassed the Government. The Campo Santo

(meaning sacred fields), located here, is the most beautiful cemetery in the world.

Thursday receptions were held in the public square. Deputy Supreme Knight Carmody responded to the addresses of welcome and pronounced an eulogy on Christopher Columbus. We then visited the birthplace of Columbus, and placed therein a large floral horseshoe. Official photographs were then taken, after which a great number of the Knights went bathing at one of the seaside resorts on the Mediterranean.

**The Home
of Columbus**

Our next destination was Nice, France, where we arrived at 2.40 P. M. This city has a population of 143,000 and compares favorably in the beauties of its mountainous regions and landscape scenery with Monte Carlo and many villiages of Switzerland through which we passed. A great demonstration was arranged by the officials and the people of the city; houses and business places were tastefully decorated, a holiday was declared, and thousands of people lined the streets. Large busses were awaiting us at the station. Bands played and addresses of welcome were made.

Nice

A public dinner and entertainment was held at the Coliseum in the evening. A lengthy telegram received from M. Deschanel, President of France, welcomed our Pilgrimage back upon French soil and assured us that the French people would forever cherish the memory of our visit to their country.

**Visit to
Monte Carlo**

Saturday, September 4th, we visited Monte Carlo upon the invitation of Prince Monaco and his people. Leaving the hotel at 9 o'clock by automobile, we traveled over what is known as the "Upper Road," built by the first Napoleon, through the Maritime Alps. This high point gave to the Pilgrims the best view possible of Monte Carlo, and the beauties of the landscape of this famous winter resort. We arrived at Monte Carlo at 11 o'clock, were escorted to the Cathedral, then to the Royal Palace, then to the theatre, after which we visited the aquarium, which contains hundreds of different kinds of fish caught by the Prince of Monaco.

We attended the banquet arranged for us by the Prince and city officials in the picturesque

hotel across the street from the gambling Casino. For three hours we watched the gambling tables, betting boards and roulette wheels. Some Brothers tried to break the bank. The story is too sad to tell.

Every possible courtesy was extended by the people of Monte Carlo and every accommodation made for our pleasure during our brief stay with them. All Brothers were loud in their praise of the hospitality shown us at this famous resort.

On returning to Nice from Monte Carlo in the evening we were met by a band and a regiment of soldiers and escorted to the Coliseum, where we were the guests of the city at a luncheon, during which Premier M. Caillet presented a beautiful banner to the Order. Souvenirs were then given to all the members. A very eloquent address expressing our appreciation was delivered by Supreme Director John H. Reddin. A dance and entertainment closed the evening's exercises.

Sunday, September 5th, we attended Mass **Arrival at**
in Nice at 5.30 A. M., after which we boarded **Pau**

the train for Lourdes. Our first stop was at Pau, where we arrived at 1.30 A. M. Monday (Labor Day), September 6th. Despite the early hour, hundreds of people were at the station to meet us, carriages and automobiles were in waiting and took us to hotels. The City of Pau contains 40,000 people. It is a delightful place, situated at the base of the Pyrenees Mountains on the bank of the Gave River. No time could be spared to visit the numerous historical points of interest in and around this ancient city.

**Visit to
Lourdes**

Continuing our journey, we reached Lourdes at 11 o'clock. A warm reception was given us by the city officials and townspeople. A very eloquent address expressing the affection of the people of Lourdes towards the Pilgrims was made by the Mayor of the city, after which carriages and automobiles carried us to the Basilica (Church of the Rosary), where we were met by Bishop Schoepfer, who welcomed us as Catholics and as Americans. The feeling of pleasure and the demonstration of joy by the thousands of people were both complimentary and inspiring. They formed a fitting introduc-

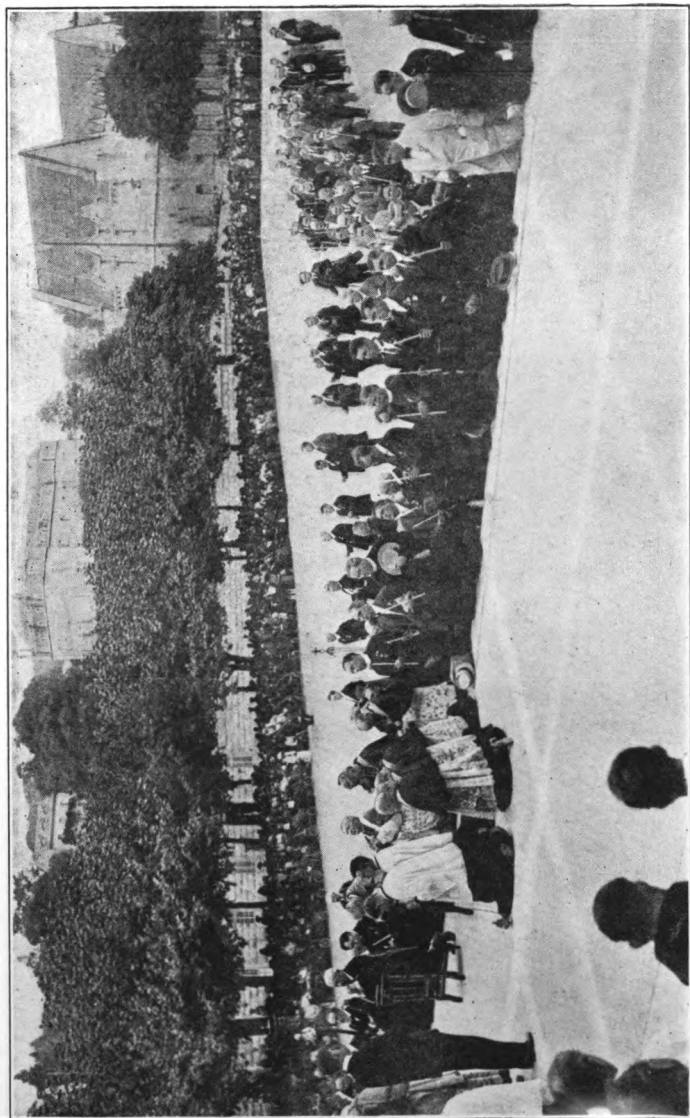
tion to the wonderful ceremonies that were to follow. We then visited the Shrine, where in 1858 the Blessed Virgin appeared to the child, Bernadette Soubirous, and announced, "I am the Immaculate Conception." A statue of the Blessed Virgin is set in the natural rock at the spot where she became visible to Bernadette.

Mass was here celebrated by Vicar General Kerwin, a member of our Order, whose knowledge of the French and Italian languages was of inestimable service to our members and played no small part in the success and impressiveness of many of the ceremonies and receptions given to us during our travels, which covered approximately 13,000 miles.

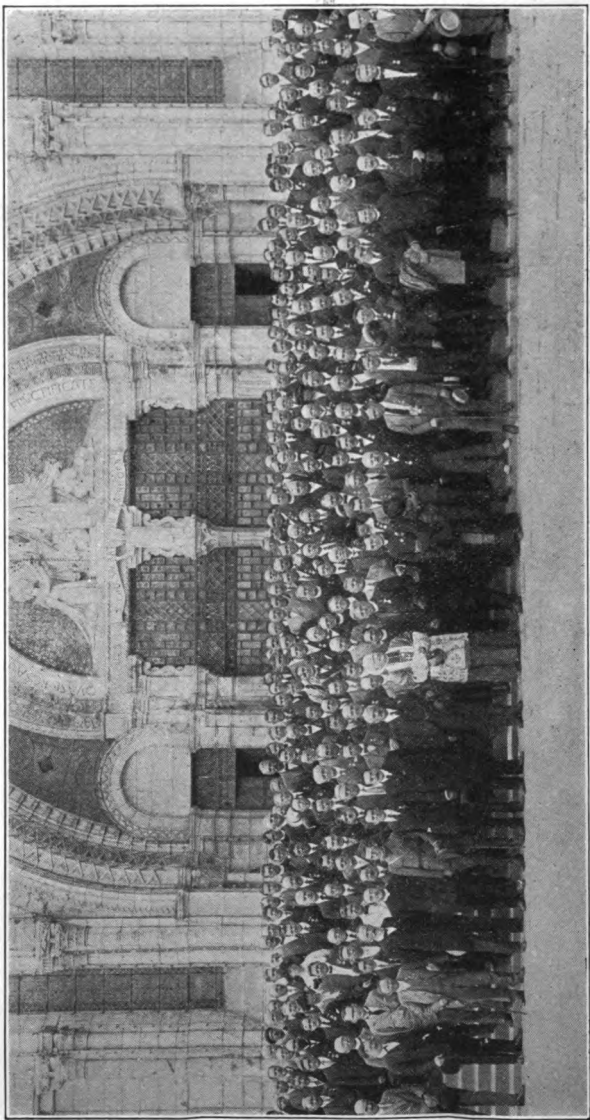
A recess from further official ceremonies was then taken until 4 o'clock. The time intervening was spent in visiting the Church of Lourdes, in purchasing religious articles and in sightseeing. We returned to the Shrine for Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament at 4 o'clock. After the services religious articles were blessed by Bishop Schoepfer, who announced that this 6th day of September was

the sixth anniversary of the consecration of Pope Benedict, and in consideration of which the Holy Father had sent greetings to the Knights of Columbus at Lourdes, with a special blessing and dispensation for the members of the Order and their respective families. It was also announced by the Bishop that two years ago, on this same date, 3000 American boys in uniform had received Communion at the Shrine.

Prayer Benediction over, a procession of our members followed, in which Father Lyons, of Indianapolis, carried the Sacred Host, and members of our party bore the canopy and torches. This procession wended its way through the beautiful grounds surrounding the Church to the great Plaza, where fully 20,000 people answered the prayers of Rev. Father Oliver, who recited the rosary and the litany, appealing with hands uplifted to Heaven for comfort and divine assistance for the hundreds of unfortunates who were physically afflicted and had come from all parts of the world to this holy spot with the hope that miracles would be performed and cures effected.



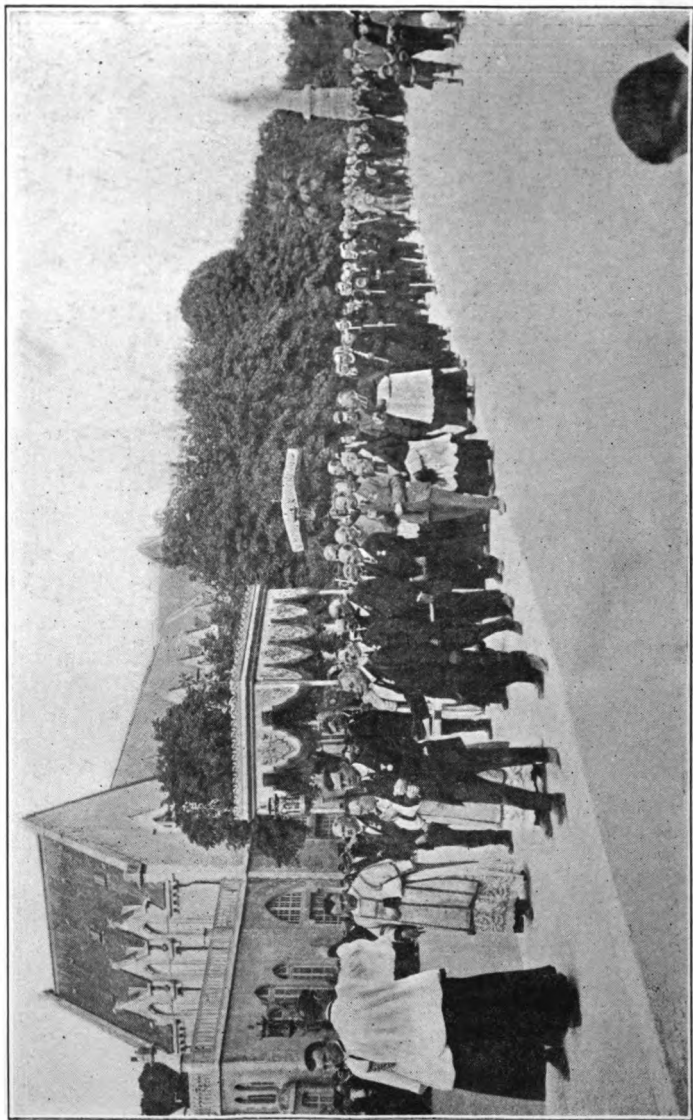
Mass celebrated, blessings given and prayers said for the thousands of afflicted in front of the Basilica at Lourdes.



With the Bishop on the steps of the Holy Rosary Church at Lourdes.



Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament at the Shrine of Lourdes.



Procession of the Knights after Benediction carrying the Sacred Host.

The sublime faith of the people at this sacred shrine was a lesson in Catholicity and a convincing proof that "nothing else matters." As the procession moved from one invalid chair to another, with Father Lyons typifying Christ, Who went among the people healing the sick, the look of reverence, appeal and intense faith on the faces of the afflicted taught a never-to-be-forgotten lesson. All eyes were filled with tears, and our faith was further strengthened by the confidence and fortitude shown and the uncomplaining acceptance (by the afflicted) of the words of Scripture, "Thy Will be done."

Departing from Lourdes at 7 P. M., we returned to Pau, where 5000 people, bands and several societies in uniform were assembled at the station to meet us. A street parade was started, and during the entire line of march to the City Hall square the cheering of the thousands of people gave further evidence of the good will of the French people towards America and their appreciation of the part played by our boys when the freedom of the world was threatened and the very life of France was in

Faith

**Return
to Pau**

danger. This enthusiastic celebration in the public square did not cease until 11 P. M. We were then escorted to our hotels.

**Return
to Paris**

On our return to Paris, Tuesday evening at 8.30, we found the entire platform and steps at the Paris station covered with red plush carpet. The President's military guards were our escorts, and they were assisted by soldiers in controlling the thousands of people who had gathered to meet us. We were at once hurried into waiting automobiles and taken to our hotels.

**Visit
to Versailles**

Wednesday, September 8th, we set out by automobile for Versailles, a city of 210,000 people, which was reached at 10 o'clock. Upon arrival we were met by the Mayor and city officials and shown through the Palace and grounds, also the room in which the conference of the World Peace Treaty Commission was held. It was here that President Wilson debated great international questions with the statesmen and giant intellects of Europe. This room is 100 feet long and 40 feet wide. The walls and ceiling are decorated in gold and

white, but large mirrors cover most of the wall space. It is known as the "Room of Mirrors." Handsome paintings of historical interest add to the beauty of the decorations.

In this city is located the Chateau de Versailles, formerly the Royal Palace and grounds of Louis XIV. The beauty and grandeur of this place and the extravagance of the royal families were largely responsible for the uprising of the French people and the carnage of riot and murder in the Revolution of 1789. It was in this chateau that Germany dictated terms to France, taking Alsace Lorraine after her victory over France in 1870-71. It was in this same building and in the same room that France dictated terms to Germany in 1919 and took back Alsace Lorraine and other indemnities.

Louis
the XIV.

In other parts of the building the statuary and wonderful paintings of ancient wars by renowned masters tell the old story of Europe. The honor and glory paid to the successful warrior and the lofty place he has always held have much to do with the continued warfare between the various countries of Europe. Wars

Cause of
War

of conquest waged to satisfy the lust for fame of royal weaklings have been the cause of more bloodshed and loss of life than can ever be told by the tongue or pen of man. Napoleon waged wars for conquest and for power. The more modern egotist, the Kaiser, acted in like manner, and the clocks of the world have moved back one hundred years in consequence.

Reception

At 2.30 P. M. a military pageant for our edification was arranged in the public square fronting the entrance to the Palace. Infantry, cavalry and artillery marched, drilled and countermarched for our pleasure, after which we were taken to the City Hall, where a light luncheon was served, souvenirs distributed and pictures taken.

We were then hurried to the home of the Hon. Hugh Wallace, United States Ambassador to France. Addresses were made by Mr. Wallace and by the French Ambassador to the United States, M. Jusserand, and Mr. Flaherty. A special theatrical performance was arranged for our party in the evening.

Thursday morning, September 9th, by invitation we visited the Ecole Militaire, headquarters of Marshal Joffre. A reception was held at 11 o'clock, after which we proceeded by automobile to the tomb of Lafayette, accompanied by Marshal Joffre and his aide.

**The Tomb
of Lafayette**

At the tomb Marshal Joffre made a brief address, during which he said: "You have wished that your last thought before leaving France should be for the great soldier who lies here. You could have found no better way of reaching French hearts than by paying homage to our brave soldiers. I am a staunch friend of your great Republic. I do not forget what America did during the war and the inestimable services rendered us by your great institution. I feel sure that the union sealed with the blood of our heroes will continue for the progress of humanity and the peace of the world."

**Address of
Marshal
Joffre**

Mr. Flaherty then placed a beautiful floral piece upon the tomb in the shape of an Alsace Lorraine cross.

This was followed by an address by Deputy Supreme Knight Carmody, dwelling upon the

relations of Washington and Lafayette and their respective countries in 1776. This address was a lesson in Patriotism, and was delivered most eloquently.

Eiffel Tower We then visited the famous Eiffel Tower. This steel structure, which reached to a height of 984 feet, was built on the banks of the Seine River, in Paris, to commemorate the Centenary Revolution Exhibition held in the year 1889.

Arch of Triumph We also visited the Arc de Triumph, erected by Napoleon in 1806 to commemorate his victory. It is 160 feet high and 150 feet long. A beautiful piece of masonry work, showing the skill of the ancient sculptors and carvers of stone. It is the largest triumphal arch in the world.

The Louvre Next we came to the Louvre (built in the 15th century), one of the outstanding artistic achievements of Paris and the most important public building in France. It contains marvelous collections of paintings, mosaics and objects of art.

City Hall at Paris Leaving the Louvre, we proceeded, by invitation, to a reception and luncheon at the City

Hall, which lasted until 6.30 P. M. This is a new building, and for simplicity, neatness, beauty of architecture, design and display of artistic taste it surpassed anything seen during our travels. The genial manner and hospitality of the city officials gave much pleasure to the members of our party.

The return to our hotels was made in time to dress for the official and final banquet, held at the Hotel d'Orsay in Paris. This banquet was given by the Knights of Columbus to the statesmen and official military family of France in recognition of the unlimited kindness and courtesy extended to us during our Pilgrimage.

**Official
K. of C.
Banquet**

The master of ceremonies was the French Minister of War, Monsieur Lafevere. All the statesmen and notables were with us,—including Judge Elbert H. Gary, of the United States Steel Trust, the many generals who played such a prominent part in the great battles of the late World War. The Prefect of Justice, Ambassadors Wallace, of the United States, and Jusserand, of France, the Mayor of Metz, Supreme Knight James A. Flaherty and Overseas Com-

missioner Edward L. Hearn were among the speakers.

The address of Mr. Hearn reviewed the work of our Order during its active participation in the war and the treatment accorded our representatives by the French military authorities during hostilities and since the signing of the Armistice. He expressed, in a most eloquent manner, the heartfelt thanks and sincere acknowledgment of the members of the Pilgrimage for the manner in which we were received and the official recognition of our mission by the French Government. This address was a fitting climax, and as the closing chapter of official receptions his words were both timely and appropriate, and expressed the feelings of every man present.

Address of
Ambassador
Wallace

The Hon. Hugh Wallace, American Ambassador to France, paid warm tribute to the great work performed by the Order during the war. His address in part was as follows: "It is a particular pleasure for me to be a guest of the Knights of Columbus on this memorable occasion, and I take this opportunity to tell you

how happy I have been, not only to see you in France, but to observe the genuine welcome extended everywhere to your great organization. It has been a demonstration participated in by all France; the hearts of the French people responding to the Americans who have worked for a common cause.

“Indeed, too high a tribute cannot be paid to the work done by the Knights of Columbus, and to the courageous and unfaltering devotion shown during the trying days of 1917-18. The result of this work will mean the everlasting friendship in peace and in war, between France and America.”

Handsome programmes were given to all the guests. The presentation of a beautiful vase to the Knights of Columbus by the French people was highly appreciated, and the offering by the Knights of Columbus of a bronze statue of Washington to the Minister of War brought cheers and loud approval from the French who were present. Judge Leche, of Louisiana, in making reply to the able and instructive address of the Minister of Finance, M. Marshal,

said that he would take back to America the message that France was facing bravely and to the fullest extent of her capacity the difficulties of peace just as she had fought and surmounted the difficulties of war.

Presents Supreme Knight Flaherty and Overseas
Given Commissioner Hearn were the recipients of diamond pins, presented by the members of the Pilgrimage as a testimonial for services rendered and in proof of our love and esteem for men who have proven themselves so worthy and have done so much for the advancement and perpetuation of our great Order. The presentation was made by Rev. Father Quinn, Indian Missionary Priest, in a most eloquent discourse. At the conclusion of his address he was loudly cheered by all the French and American guests.

Catholic Friday, September 10th, we visited the
University Catholic University of Paris and were presented with medals and blessed by the Bishop. We were the guests on this occasion of the French Society for the Entertainment of Foreign Catholics. The ceremonies were directed by M. Bau-

drillart, Rector of the University. A beautiful statue, representing a praying knight, was presented to Supreme Knight Flaherty. Medals were given to all members of the Pilgrimage. In Supreme Knight Flaherty's address replying to the several speakers he said: "We know that France loves America. Our hearts tell us that America loves France. We shall return to our beloved America as apostles of that bond of friendship between our two great countries, and our individual and collective influence will be employed to the end that the bond of friendship cemented by our visit may never be severed." We then visited the homes of Marshal Foch and General Lyautey, where the Knights of Columbus officers were decorated, and Supreme Knight Flaherty received the title of Star of Morocco, and the insignia representing the honor.

Saturday morning, September 11th, we began the return journey to Havre. Shortly after our arrival announcement was made that the ship would not leave until 8.30 P. M. Immediately the Municipal Officers at Havre se-

**Return
to Havre**

cured automobiles and took the Pilgrims on a sightseeing tour of the city, pointing out to us the forts which protect the harbor, also the new dry dock now under construction, which when completed will be the largest in the world. We returned to the ship at 6 o'clock, where a luncheon and reception were held on board.

Farewells Farewells and the singing of national airs accompanied by the ship's band, concluded our associations with the French people. Their treatment of us from the day we set foot upon their soil until the ship left the harbor was one of kindness, courtesy and consideration. It has left an impression in the heart of every Knight and made of him a sincere advocate for the continued and lasting friendship between the people of our two great Republics.

**Leaving
France** Amidst the cheering of thousands on the dock, and the mingled strains of the "Star-Spangled Banner" and the "Marseillaise," we left France on the Steamship Lafayette. Fireworks lighting up the sky, whistles blowing, flags waving, and the firing of naval guns are memories never to be forgotten. As the French

shores were lost to view, every member of our historic Pilgrimage felt that the experience of our trip had made of him a better citizen; it had improved him physically and mentally, by educating him in the history of the Old World; it had opened his eyes to the necessities and possibilities of the New World and the part he should take in it by pointing out to him the conditions under which millions of human beings live and the privations they suffer.

The return trip was uneventful. A severe storm on Monday and Tuesday confined most of the passengers to their cabins, thereby causing the dining room to be deserted and making the tasks of the waiters easy to perform.

**The Return
Ocean
Voyage**

After passing Sandy Hook on the last day of our homeward voyage, the great towers of the Metropolitan, Woolworth and Singer Buildings of New York became visible, and while they looked more beautiful to us than ever before, our real joy was experienced as we looked upon the Statue of Liberty, standing majestically in the New York Bay, holding aloft the lighted torch as the symbol of Liberty enlight-

ening the world, bidding welcome to the tired pilgrims, and guaranteeing freedom and justice to all who seek our shores.

**The Statue
of Liberty**

This colossal emblem on Liberty Island, New York Harbor, is the tallest statue in the world and towers to a height of 306 feet above the water level. The height of the bronze figure alone is 151 feet, the total weight is 450,000 pounds, the bronze statue constituting 200,000 pounds. The market value of this statue today, exclusive of the base, would amount to \$1,000,000. It was the work of the great French artist, Bartholdi, and was presented by the French people to the United States Government in commemoration of the centennial of their national independence. It was unveiled on October 28, 1886, and was accepted by President Grover Cleveland in the presence of many distinguished French and American statesmen.

**Arrival at
the Dock**

We arrived at the dock at 4.30 P. M. on Monday, September 20th, and were greeted by the wives, brothers, sisters and sweethearts of the tourists, after which this happy family, representing Canada, Mexico, Panama and for-

ty-four States of our great country, departed for their respective homes. Many of them had to travel on trains to distant States several days, but before leaving they declared the trip from beginning to end to have been the experience of a lifetime. All were immensely pleased with the friendships made and good fellowship found. They were a unit in their praise of the services rendered by the American Express Company and of the courtesy of their representatives who accompanied us, with special references to Mr. Holland, Mr. Dane, Mr. Green and their active aides, whose untiring efforts and solicitude for our comfort were frequently commented upon. Every feature of the original program was carried out with many additional receptions, without any loss of time or inconvenience to the tourists. No serious illness or accident marred the pleasure of our members, and the weather was ideal.

Celebrations of welcome and proof of the esteem in which all of the Brothers are held added a final touch of sentiment and pleasure for the tired members of our party. In Philadelphia, the home of Supreme Knight James A.

**Welcome
Home**

Flaherty, upon his arrival, in company with twenty Brother Knights (who were residents of Philadelphia and members of the Pilgrimage), a special train from New York had been provided, and a great demonstration arranged, followed by a parade of 10,000 people through the streets to the headquarters of the Order, where speeches of welcome were made and a few paragraphs of the wonderful story told, echoes of which will from time to time entertain and edify the members of our great institution.

In addition to the serious side and noble purpose of our strenuous tour, there were many amusing incidents occurring daily, bringing out the humor and witticism of many members of our party and also the interesting human side of the French and Italian peoples. This had the effect of causing us to forget any slight inconveniences suffered in the hotels, on the trains or elsewhere, with the result that merriment and good fellowship prevailed at all times.

**Effect of Our
Pilgrimage**

The good effect of our Pilgrimage in France and Italy (both from a spiritual and patriotic point of view) cannot be overestimated, and if

the demonstrations of gratitude and affection shown us as Americans by the French people can be taken as a criterion, the permanent co-operation and undying friendship of France and America are assured for all time.

The dignified and exemplary conduct of our members reflected their character and gave further evidence to the world that Catholic gentlemen only are enrolled upon the books of that great American institution, the Knights of Columbus.

The inspiration received by every Brother upon this international Pilgrimage made of him a better man, a better husband, father, son or brother, a better Catholic, with increased devotion to the Church and its teachings, with good will towards all men and a renewal of the pledge of loyalty and sincerity to the greatest of Republics, the greatest of countries, the hope of the world— **AMERICA.** **Inspirations**

**Address of Supreme Knight
James A. Flaherty to his Holiness
Pope Benedict XV**

"Holy Father: On behalf of the Knights of Columbus I want to thank you for this gracious privilege of an audience with your August Person. To every Catholic it is a supreme honor and pleasure to kneel at the feet of Christ's Vicar and to receive his blessing, but to us this occasion is even more inspiring and suggestive. We represent nearly a million members of an organization in the United States whose lives are formed on Catholic principles and whose hopes and aspirations are wrapped up in the well-being of our Holy Mother the Church. For her they have all the affection and reverence of devoted sons. They appeal with pride to her history and achievements, and their boast is that all the blessings to which modern civilization is heir we owe to her, and that in every branch of human endeavor she has been a help and an inspiration. Nor do they hesitate to claim that she has the secret of peace for the turmoil and unrest with which the world is now seething, and that if men will only listen to her the storm that is beating against the

bulwarks of society will spend itself in harmless fury.

“During the late war the Knights of Columbus have shown that loyalty to Catholic ideals is not incompatible with the most complete devotion to country. By their spirit of sacrifice and generosity they won universal approval and gave an example of patriotism that no one could question. ‘For God and country’ is their motto, and they have proved to the world that the sentiment it enshrines is capable of developing the highest type of citizen.

“Hence, Holy Father, in your presence today our hearts throb with emotion. As the Head of the Church, as Christ’s Vicegerent on earth, you are to us the embodiment of supreme spiritual power, the guardian and custodian of those ideals which are the aim and ambition of the Knights of Columbus. ‘He that heareth you heareth Me.’ For the time being we go back in spirit to the days when Our Divine Lord wandered along the highways and byways of Galilee and Judea, and the picture that comes to our minds finds its counterpart in the scene here today. Once more Christ is in the midst of His followers, and sentiments of awe, reverence and filial love surge over us and make it impossible to give fitting expression to what we should like to say. Ours is the experience of the poet who found that ‘words but half reveal and half conceal the soul within.’

"Moreover, to you personally. Holy Father, the Knights of Columbus are bound by special ties. Like the great man from whom they take their name, Christopher Columbus, you, too, claim Genoa as the place of your birth and cradle of your affections. Like him you must have often looked out, in the golden glow of sunset, towards the land which beckoned him on, far from home and friends. Time and again you must have followed in his footsteps through the streets of the city that nearly five hundred years ago echoed to his tread. To you, as to Columbus, the history of Genoa must be a source of pride and admiration. Like him, you are familiar with the names in her book of gold, and you share with him in the renown that comes to her from the story of her glorious sons. As a native of Genoa, the Knights of Columbus claim kindred with you.

"Holy Father, your lot is a hard one. Perhaps never in the history of the world was there greater need of loyalty and devotion on the part of your sons. Dark clouds are gathering on the horizon, and the storm is bound to break near your person. We, the Knights of Columbus, pledge you our love and support. All the energy of our Catholic manhood is yours to command.

In the Middle Ages the knights were the champions of the weak and the oppressed. In the ages of chivalry men were proud to do battle for justice and truth.

THE K. of C. PILGRIMAGE — 1920

We, the Knights of Columbus, will follow where you lead. Your cause is our cause. Your weal or woe means joy or sorrow for us.

“Our final word is a petition for your blessing. With that blessing we will go back to America strengthened in our resolve to work for God and country. In that great land where the genuine notion of freedom is a glorious heritage your blessing will help us to give to our fellow citizens an example of Catholic knighthood and be an incentive to labor for the common good and the glory of God. Holy Father, bless us.”



**Address of Welcome by
Pope Benedict XV
to the Knights of Columbus**

“Reason of sweet comfort and occasion of glad hope is our lot today in receiving into our presence so numerous and so select a representation of the Association of the Knights of Columbus of the United States of America, come here to pay homage, through our humble person, to the glorious dignity with which we are clothed, as the Vicar of Christ on earth. It is always indeed a pleasure to see our children round us, but it is a very special source of happiness to have in front of us today the representatives of that noble sodality which we know has already acquired such merit before the Catholic religion and its great country, America.

“We are well aware of all that the Knights of Columbus have done for many years past in the different fields of human activity. Who is there who does not know of the great help they gave to the Catholic University of Washington, founding there numerous courses of study for Catholic young men? And certainly we cannot but repeat the well-deserved praise which our predecessor of venerated memory bestowed on that initiative as being both in appearance and in fact well

deserving of religion and of true culture. Further, we remember the unfailing help that the Knights of Columbus gave both to Bishops and parish Priests for the carrying out of their pastoral ministry. It is this valid help which often makes possible works of beneficence, and surely it can be said that the names of the efficacious helpers should be written in the book of eternal life by the side of the founders of the works of beneficiary they supported. Nor can we possibly pass over in silence the provident and charitable activity of the Knights of Columbus during the recent war, not only in the United States, but in all the countries afflicted by the terrible calamity, the memory of which is still vivid. That activity gained the praise and admiration not only by Catholics but of all of good heart, without distinction of faith or nationality, and not only from simple citizens, but from governments. And shall not what they have said find echo from us, who while we could not arrest the awful scourge set before ourself the noble purpose of at least mitigating its consequences?

"These abundantly consoling fruits of the work of the Association of the Knights of Columbus are to be attributed above all, in our opinion, to the intimately religious spirit which inspires the beloved Association itself and causes in each and every one of its members that clear cut, open and entire profession and practice of the Catholic religion which does so much to make

the individual morally honorable and socially useful. And that is why the Knights of Columbus, besides being a magnificent example to their brethren in the faith, are also the best citizens. Truly they deserve to be honored with the name of 'Knights'—a name which, in the Middle Ages, was the hallmark of an institution among whose aims were respect for and defence of the Church, care and love for the weak and poor. Specially significant and honorable for you, too, beloved children, is the name of that great pioneer of civilization and apostle of faith, our fellow citizen Christopher Columbus, who loved to call himself and write himself down as Columbus, Bearer of Christ, Columbus Christum Ferens.

"Readily we recognize that a field as vast as it is fertile is open for your work in the great American Republic, whose boast it is to have based its public order on the fullest liberty and mutual respect. Such conditions must necessarily favor the life of your institution, but it is through your spirit of initiative and fruitful activity that it has developed. And therefore we have all reason to hope that the Knights of Columbus will extend and intensify to even greater good their work, maintaining it—as there is no reason to doubt—in due reverence and sincere attachment towards the Episcopate, which on its side has always shown its sympathy for every undertaking fruitful of good. We are sure, too, that the Knights of Columbus will never depart from that wise line of conduct which

they have always followed hitherto, of not identifying their programme with any other programme of a political character. Indeed, we believe that there lies the secret of the sympathy that they have gained on all sides and which has assured their magnificent success in every field of action. An old principle teaches that good spreads itself, and it is not surprising, therefore, that while still doing so much fruitful work in their beloved country, the Knights of Columbus have thought of extending their actions to Italy, too, and in special manner to this city of Rome, dear above all cities to our hearts.

"We welcome you, Knights of Columbus, to the Holy City. For indeed here, under our very eyes, a shameful propaganda is trying to rob our children nearest to us of the most precious heritage left them by their forefathers, the Catholic faith. There is a very network of endeavor to that shameful end. They are trying to attract our young men, who are so inclined to the pleasures of sport into association which, while they give facilities for satisfying that inclination, tend to make insidious attacks in the hearts of the young men on the sacred treasure of Catholic principles. They relieve material distress and at the same moment steal a patrimony of the faith. You noble Knights of Columbus, are not ignorant of the work of propaganda of which we speak, and we glory in the hope that in con-

formity with the aims of your Association, you will set your good propaganda here in Rome, against the wicked propaganda, which to our sorrow we see so widely spread in this dear city. There is another field of competition before you. May the struggle bring you as much merit as it brings us hope.

“But, that our hope may not be brought to naught, and that your merits may be copious, we turn to Him who holds in His Hands the hearts of men, and we pray Him to give strength and comfort to the Association of the Knights of Columbus in their noble work. May the Lord bless the Supreme Knight of the deserving Association, and may He bless every Knight belonging to it. May the blessing of the Lord strengthen concord among them, co-ordinate and multiply the efforts of good will common to all. And pledge of these things so much to be desired be the Apostolic Benediction which we impart from our heart, repeating to you once more how great reason of sweet comfort and occasion of glad hope is your presence here today.”



A Few Paragraphs from the Address of Marshal Pétain

There is not a single point of this vast battlefield which today is not renowned. Wherever the eye may turn it meets with hills or valleys whose names have become a part of history, and to which heart-moving memories will ever be attached.

Thus on an occasion like this, when I come to evoke some phases of the conflict engaged here to save this ancient stronghold and with it France herself, and with France an entire civilization founded upon fraternity and civic justice, my thoughts must of necessity return filled with thankful admiration to the heroic defenders of Verdun.

On this very spot your own Ambassador pronounced certain words grateful to French ears and which I would like to recall to you. "The walls of this fortress," said he, "were less firm than the French breasts that defended them." It is because the soldiers of Verdun were worthy of such high praise as this, their fortitude has today become an eternal symbol, that I feel authorized to retrace for you some portion of their heroic military exploits.

One year later the trenches to the north of Verdun between Meuse and Argonne, which the French

had captured, were assigned (on the 22d of September, 1918) to the American troops fresh from their victory in the St. Mihiel salient. It was from these very trenches that the attack launched four days later by the three army corps of Gen. Bullard, Gen. Liggett, and Gen. Cameron and under Gen. Pershing's own orders was to be started. This offensive was only to be concluded on the day of the armistice and before Sedan.

TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN SOLDIERS

When you Knights of Columbus leave this glorious field and arrive at the cemetery of Romayne-Argonne, there to pay tribute to your heroic dead who participated in these battles, I beg that you will associate with them in the homage which you are about to render, those American soldiers who came to swell our ranks, long before the hour had struck for your country's entry into the great World War. During the entire battle about Verdun, your American ambulances traversed this perilous territory, advancing unhesitatingly up to our first lines. One of the former ambassadors to France, Mr. Bacon, in the village of Esnes not 800 meters from the front himself brought first aid to our wounded soldiers. How many heroic aviators from the United States flew in these skies and now sleep their last sleep beneath French soil!

It was here that a battalion of men from the Vandee, simple peasants, patient and tenacious, ani-

mated with a profound religious feeling, held on the 11th day of June the Ravine de-la-Dame, west of Thiaumont. They waited for the infantry attack under a veritable deluge of shot. The falling earth about them had stopped the muzzles of their guns, which were no longer useful but to serve as pikes. The men fixed their bayonets and waited in prayer. When the assault came few were left to meet it. Most of them had already been killed at their post or buried, musket in hand, by the great shells bursting about them.

You can see the point of their bayonets showing above the uneven surface of the ground. The heroes beneath them making of this trench a revered and sacred spot. It is to commemorate their sacrifice that we lay the cornerstone of this temple, placed in this sector which your military forces occupied. This monument will recall the historic victory won shoulder to shoulder with our French poilus, and will also bear witness to the indissoluble friendship which must forever bind our great countries.

On this hill of sacred memories this temple should symbolize in its strength, beauty and sobriety the souls of the men in whose honor it is erected. It must forever remain as imperishable as the glory of the heroes of Verdun.

One of several proclamations which preceded the arrival of the Knights of Columbus Pilgrimage in the various cities and towns of France.

Proclamation

CITIZENS ATTENTION !

Two hundred and fifty Knights of Columbus will arrive this afternoon within our walls. They come to us from Metz, where they have replaced in that old Lorraine city a statue of Lafayette. Our Lorraine brothers received these representatives of the great American republic with a fitting welcome. It is our turn, citizens of Strasbourg, to receive them worthily. These are not tourists who come to us but proven friends. We Alsatians cannot forget that during the war which ended in our liberation from the German yoke, American soldiers occupied the Vosges sector. In September, 1918, it was Pershing's army that contributed, by its heroic attack upon Saint Mihiel, to the ultimate defeat of the German forces.

The people of Strasbourg grasp with pleasure this opportunity of welcoming the representatives of one of the strongest organizations in the United States, now in France to fulfill a pious mission in the devastated

regions, and to inaugurate at Metz a statue of Lafayette, which will remain in our country, a lasting testimonial to the indissoluble brotherhood of our two great Democracies.

At Strasbourg a warm, popular reception will show them that all of their efforts and sacrifices have not been in vain. It is in our city, destined for this honor by its traditions and all the memories attached to it, that the Knights of Columbus have willed to end their long trip across France. Our citizens can testify to their gratitude by enthusiastically greeting the delegates of the great nation which lent its aid to the Allied Nations. The reception of the Knights of Columbus at Strasbourg will symbolize in their eyes the joy that all Alsace feels in being once more French, and the sincere admiration it has for America.



Historical and Statistical Facts

There are upwards of 20,000,000 Catholics in the United States.

There are 800,000 members upon the roll-books of the Knights of Columbus.

The Catholic population of New York State is 3,250,000.

The number of Catholic children attending parochial schools and orphan asylums in New York State is 349,212.

The Catholic population in Pennsylvania is 2,082,000, and the number of children attending parochial schools and orphan asylums is 239,400.

The average annual cost per pupil for education in the United States is \$65.00.

If the children in the parochial schools of New York State were educated by the State, it would mean an additional annual expenditure of \$22,696,780.00, and to the State of Pennsylvania \$15,551,000.00.

From 1801 to 1905 the Catholic churches of France were supported by the French Government, and exempt from all taxation. This agreement was made between Pope Pius VII and Napoleon.

France covers an area of 207,054 square miles, 50,000 square miles less than the State of Texas.

The population of France at the last official census was 39,604,758. Of this number 17,508,940 reside in the cities.

The population of Paris at the last official census was 2,888,110.

When the French Revolution occurred in 1789, Paris had a population of 600,000.

The Grand Opera is supported by the French Government. The Paris Opera House is the largest in the world. It was opened in 1874.

Following the surrender of the French at Sedan, on September 1st, 1870—20,000 German soldiers entered Paris on March 1st, 1871. Versailles was then made the seat of Government by the Germans.

The Bastile, which meant to Frenchmen what the Tower of London meant to Englishmen, was built in the year 1380, and destroyed on July 14th, 1789, during the French Revolution.

Napoleon was crowned Emperor of France, December 2nd, 1804, in Notre Dame Cathedral, by Pope Pius VII. The erection of this Cathedral was started in the year 1163 and finished in 1240.

After the victory of Germany in 1871 an indemnity of one billion dollars was demanded by the German Government. This was paid by France in 1873.

Coblenz is the headquarters of the American Army of Occupation in Germany.

The floor space in the auditorium of the Palace of Justice in Brussels covers 270,000 square feet, exceeding St. Peter's Cathedral at Rome.

It was at St. Giles prison, in Brussels, that Edith Cavell was imprisoned and shot by the Germans.

The World War began August 4th, 1914.

1. Germany declared war on Russia, August 1st, 1914.
2. Germany declared war on France, August 3rd, 1914.
3. Germany declared war on Belgium, August 4th, 1914.
4. Great Britain declared war on Germany, August 4th, 1914
5. Great Britain declared war on Austria, August 12th, 1914.
7. Italy declared war on Austria, May 23rd, 1915.

8. Italy declared war on Germany, August 27th, 1916.
9. United States declared war on Germany, April 6th, 1917.
10. United States declared war on Austria, December 7th, 1917.

Between August 1st, 1914, and August 1st, 1918, the following nations declared war against Germany:

United States	Russia	Liberia
British Empire	Rumania	Panama
France	Portugal	Cuba
Italy	Japan	Siam
Belgium	China	Montenegro
Serbia	Greece	Hayti

During the World War the following nations severed diplomatic relations with Germany:

Brazil	Ecuador	Nicaragua
Bolivia	Guatemala	Peru
Costa Rica	Honduras	Uruguay
		Egypt

The number of soldiers registered in the armies of the central powers was 20,000,000.

The number of soldiers registered in the allied armies opposing Germany was 33,100,000.

Marshal Joffre launched the great battle of the Marne on September 6th, 1914, the battle-line reaching a distance of approximately 175 miles.

The Lusitania was sunk on May 7th, 1915—114 lives were lost.

The Sussex was torpedoed on March 24th, 1916.

Germany's apologetic note to the United States was received on May 4th, 1916, in answer to President Wilson's ultimatum of April 18th, 1916.

In a note to the United States, Germany declared open warfare on the high seas and forbid all traffic after February 1st, 1917.

The United States severed all diplomatic relations with Germany and dismissed the Ambassador on February 3rd, 1917.

The first War Revenue bill calling for \$7,000,000,000 was passed April 14th, 1917.

The select draft law was passed on May 18, 1917.

The first American troops arrived in France June 28th, 1917, and on December 31st, 1917—176,665 were on French soil.

Up to the date of signing the Armistice, November 11th, 1918, 2,084,000 American soldiers

had been transported to France, 51 per cent. being carried by English vessels.

When the war ended almost 4,000,000 American soldiers had served in the army and 800,000 in the navy.

In the United States 1,635,000 additional soldiers were equipped and trained, awaiting the call for transportation overseas, and almost 20,000,000 registered, awaiting the call to army service. The total registration was 23,709,000.

The American Red Cross had 19,928,000 members. The total subscriptions to the Red Cross Society was over \$295,000,000.

More than 21,000,000 persons in the United States subscribed to the 4th Liberty Loan.

The cost in money to the United States was more than one million dollars per hour during our active participation in the war.

1,390,000 American soldiers saw active service at the front.

The total number of American army casualties in the war was 77,111.

The number of American lives lost in the navy, army and marines attached to it was 87,265. Two out of every three soldiers who reached France took part in active battle.

The total number of American soldiers killed, died from disease, unaccounted for, prisoners, wounded slightly, wounded severely, and other causes were 302,605.

The first American soldiers to lose their lives were Lieutenant Fitzsimmons (member of the Knights of Columbus), Corp. Gretchen and Privates Enright and Hay.

The total number of French soldiers killed on the battle fields was 1,364,000, the total number permanently crippled 740,000, and the total number wounded 3,000,000.

The total number of German soldiers killed on the battle fields was 2,875,000, the total number disabled 2,240,000.

The total deaths on the battle fields of all nations in the late World War were greater than all the deaths in all the wars in the previous 100 years.

The total number of school houses completely destroyed in France, 1100.

The total number of dwellings destroyed in whole or in part, 574,777.

The Germans took from France during the war 523,000 oxen, 367,000 horses and mules and 465,000 sheep.

Up to January 1st, 1917, German submarines and mines sunk 5,340,000 tons of allied merchant ships.

The first battle by the Americans unassisted was won at Cantigny on May 28th, 1918.

General Foch was appointed commander-in-chief of the allied forces on March 29th, 1918, and on August 6th, 1918, was given the highest military honor in France, the title of Marshal.

The Czar of Russia was deposed on March 15th, 1917.

The Kaiser abdicated November 9th, 1918, and fled to Holland.

In July, August and September of 1917, under General Haig, great drives were made and military victories won by the English and Canadian troops against the famous switch line of the Germans.

General Pershing took over command of all battle lines at Verdun and surrounding points on August 30th, 1918.

The Argonne-Meuse battle lasted 47 days. The Germans contested every foot of ground gained by the allies, with great loss of life to all armies participating. The English, French and Americans fighting together. This slaughter ceased on Armistice Day. More than 1,000,000

American soldiers were engaged in this battle and 117,000 Americans were killed or carried from the field wounded.

The farmers in the United States upon request by the Government increased the cultivation of their land by 23,000,000 acres in 1917, over that in cultivation in the year 1916.

The World War was won by the brilliant military strategy and never-die spirit of the French Marshals, Generals and soldiers, the British and Canadian bulldog tenacity on sea and on land, the nobility and endurance of Belgium character, the Italian support and co-operation, the Russian might and manpower, during the first two years of the war, and by the courage, daring and quick action of the American soldiers, as proven by their ability to accept conditions and take advantage of opportunities presented.

The people of each country, through their various auxiliary associations, played their part well in the great military drama. They welcomed the day of peace, and joined in fervent appeal to the great unseen power, praying that wars would cease forever, and that peace and good will would prevail throughout the civilized nations of the world.

**World War Cost Estimated
in Terms of Money**

The Entente Allies

Russia	\$30,000,000,000
Britain	52,000,000,000
France	32,000,000,000
United States	40,000,000,000
Italy	12,000,000,000
Rumania	3,000,000,000
Serbia	3,000,000,000
Total	\$172,000,000,000

The Central Powers

Germany	\$45,000,000,000
Austria-Hungary	25,000,000,000
Turkey	5,000,000,000
Bulgaria	2,000,000,000
Total	\$77,000,000,000

Grand total of estimated cost in money \$249,000,000,000, some of which will be retrieved by Germany's surrender.

Dedicated to the Pilgrims

Each Title Tells a Story

Additional volumes describing this wonderful experience will be published at stated intervals, by well-known authors under the following titles:

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2. "Brothers" by France and America.
3. Putting it Over," by the K. of C.
4. "A Real Lady at Rheims," by Princess de Polignac.
5. "Decorations I Have Missed," by James A. Flaherty.
6. "Our Idol Worker," by Edward L. Hearn.
7. "The Exclusive Cabin," by the Supreme Board.
8. "A Few Knights I Have Met," by M. H. Carmody.
9. "A Good Fellow," by John F. O'Neill.
10. "Mary and Her Camera," by John B. Kennedy.
11. "A Friend In-Deed," by M. J. McEnery.
12. "The Ace" of Diamonds, by J. M. J. Costello.
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